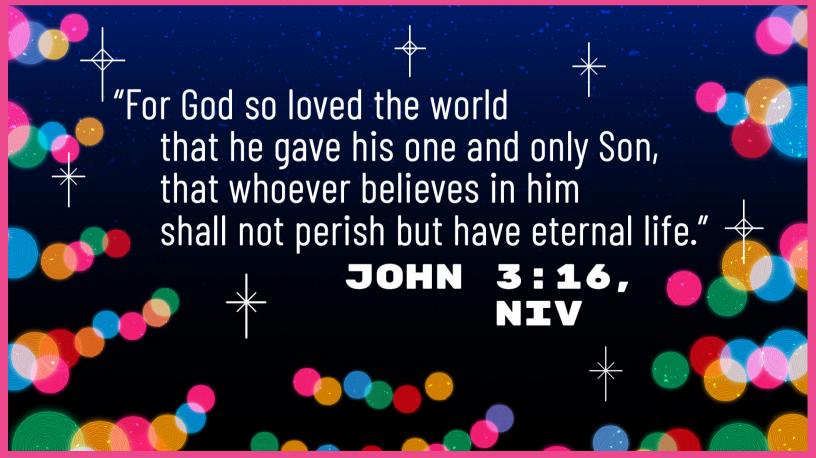
Collide 5-6



December 2021





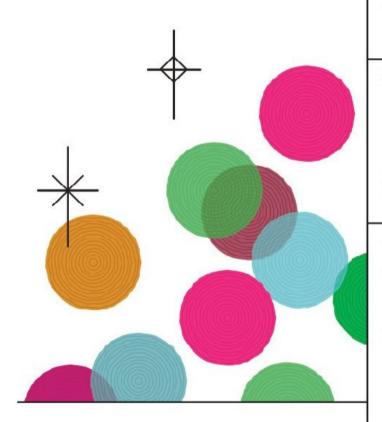
2021

Collide



Light Show: Let the Christmas celebration begin

Christmas is celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.



MEMORY VERSE

"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life." John 3:16, NIrV

Week One

Elizabeth & Zechariah

Luke 1:5-25, 57-66

What are some things you celebrate?

Week Two

Gabriel Appears to Mary

Luke 1:26-56

When has something worked out differently than you expected?

Week Three

Jesus Is Born/Shepherds Visit

Luke 2:1-20

How are you celebrating Christmas this year?

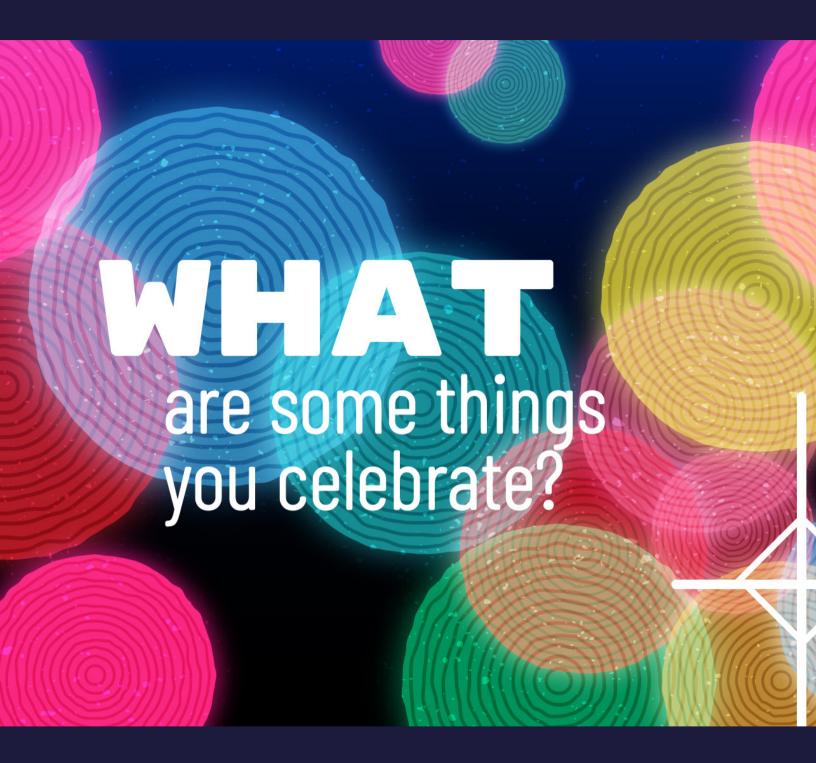
Week Four

Wise Men

Matthew 2:1-12

How can you celebrate Jesus all year long?

December 5-11



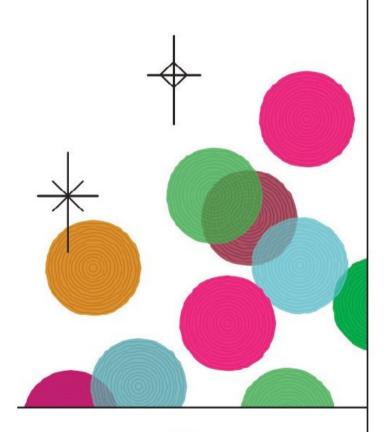
Elizabeth and Zechariah (Luke 1:5-25,57-66)

Collide



Light Show: Let the Christmas celebration begin

Christmas is celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.



MEMORY VERSE

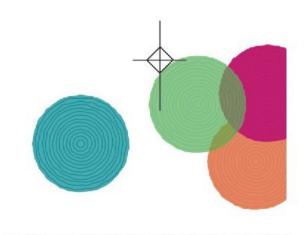
"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life." John 3:16, NIrV

Bible Story

Elizabeth & Zechariah

Luke 1:5-25, 57-66

What are some things you celebrate?



Preteen

ENGAGE IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS TOGETHER



Morning Time

Start your kid's day off with encouragement by celebrating a recent accomplishment—big or small.



Meal Time

At a meal this week, go around the table and share one thing about each person worth celebrating. (Everyone participate.)



Drive Time

While on the go, ask your kid: "What is your favorite Christmas song? What Christmas song do you like the least?"



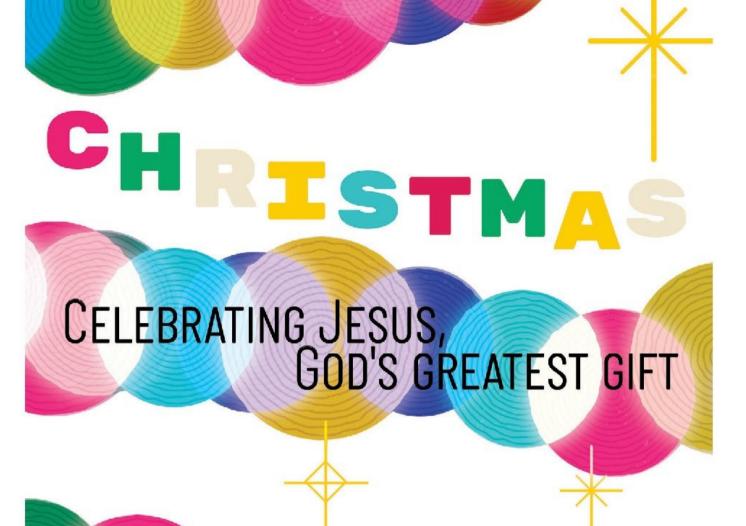
Bed Time

Pray for each other: "God, thank You that even when something looks impossible, we can see still You at work in small ways and sometimes big."

Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.





First, watch this week's video!

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked:

2. You learned:
3. You'd like to know:

FOR AN everyday faith.

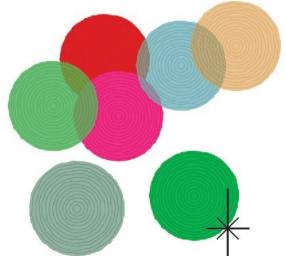
Read Luke 1:5-25; 57-66

As you read through Luke 1:5-25; 57-66, check off any of the unlikely events in the list below that God makes possible.

Elizabeth,	who	is	very	Ol	d,	becomes
pregnant.						

- ☐ An angel renders Zechariah truly speechless.
- □ Zechariah is chosen among the hundreds of priests to go inside the Holy place.
- ☐ After naming the baby, Zechariah is able to speak again.
- ☐ Elizabeth and Zechariah, without talking, decide to name the baby John.
- ☐ An angel appears to Zechariah.
- ☐ Elizabeth delivers a healthy baby boy.

How many did you check off? All of them? God really can do anything, can't He? What a reason to celebrate!



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There are a lot of ways to celebrate what God has done, including praying!

You may think of praying as a time when you ask God for help—and that's certainly a great thing to talk to God about. But prayer is also a time we can thank God and praise Him for the wonderful things He has done—we can celebrate because God can do anything.

Think about the unique way you were made in God's image, and then pray this prayer to thank Him:

Dear God, You can do anything! I want to celebrate all the things You have done in my life and the lives of others. I remember when _______ and

That was amazing! And how cool was it

You

when You

I am thankful for these and so many other things You have done that are worthy of celebrating, and I can't wait to keep celebrating all month long that Jesus was born! In His Name, I pray.

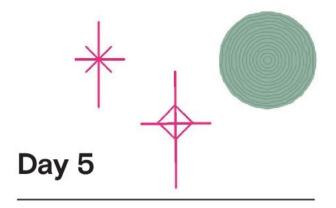
Amen.

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Celebrating what God has done is
something we can do alone, and
we can also do it in community,
recognizing what God has done
and can do in the lives of everyone
around us.

But before we can celebrate, we need to know what God has been up to! So take a few minutes today to interview at least five people you know—friends, family, teachers, peers—and ask them to share at least one thing that God has done in their lives that is worthy of celebrating.

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What are some things you celebrate?

First, grab some blank paper, a ruler, scissors, a hole punch (if you have one), a piece of string or wire (even dental floss will work!), and a pen.

Next, measure and cut five strips in the following sizes:

1.25" x 10" (2)

1.25" x 7" (2)

1.25" x 5" (1)

On each strip, using your best handwriting, write a short description of each of the four things you learned that others have to celebrate. On the last strip, write one thing that God has done in your life worthy of celebrating (look back at your prayer from Day 2 if you need inspiration).

Then, punch a hole 1/4" from the top and bottom of each strip (if you don't have a hole punch, carefully use the scissors or pen to poke a hole in each one). Stack the papers together with the smallest in the middle sandwiched by the medium strips, followed by the largest strips. Line up all of the strips on one end, and thread a piece of string or wire through the holes and tie it off. Repeat this step on the other end of the strips, which you can then fan out.

Then hang the ornament up on your tree or in your room somewhere you will see it often and remember to celebrate because God can do anything.

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December 12-18



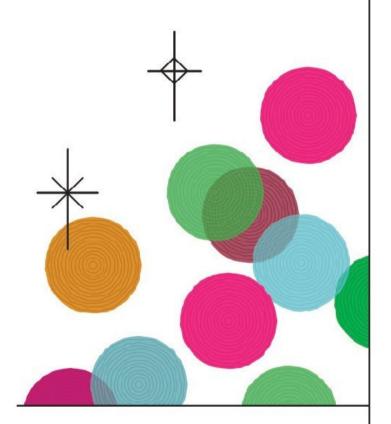
Gabriel appears to Mary (Luke 1:26-56)

Collide



Light Show: Let the Christmas celebration begin

Christmas is celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.



MEMORY VERSE

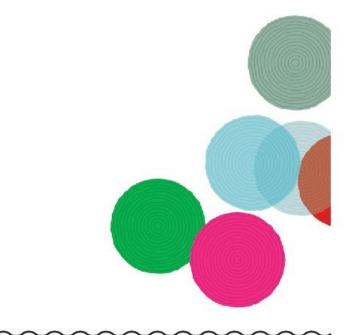
"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life." John 3:16, NIrV

Bible Story

Gabriel Appears to Mary

Luke 1:26-56

When has something worked out differently than you expected?



Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.

has something	
worked out	
worked out differently than you expected?	



First, watch this week's video!

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked:
2. You learned:
3. You'd like to know:

Read Luke 1:26-56

As you read Luke 1:26-56, put a box around the sentences or paragraphs describing Mary's plans.

Then put a circle around the places where God's plan for Mary is revealed. Lastly, highlight the places where Mary accepts and even celebrates what God has planned. If you can, you can even put exclamation points, smiley faces, and any other happy emojis next to the celebratory passages.

Sometimes we tend to box God in—including His plans for us. But when we start to see—and accept—the plan God has for us, it leads to something truly worth celebrating!



There is probably no better time to talk about God's plan, which may be very different from ours, than Christmas.

Probably everyone has experienced the letdown of high expectations when it comes to Christmas. Whether it's a plan to decorate your house or room a certain way, expectations of certain gifts you'll receive, or a plan to save up and give a lot of gifts to others that they will absolutely love, sometimes those plans just don't turn out the way we expect. In those times, it's important to remember that Christmas means that God had a plan to send us a Savior, and that same God has a plan for YOUR life!

Walk around your house and find some things that remind you of God's plan—and how that is worth celebrating: maybe it's a nativity set your family sets out every Christmas, or some Christmas cards sitting on the counter that remind you of the wonderful people God has put in your life.

Find a couple of examples of God's plan, and as you take it all in, read this prayer out loud:

"Dear God, thank You for the plan that You have for me! Sometimes it's hard to celebrate when the things I plan don't turn out the way I expected, but when I remember that You have a plan and that Your plan is good—and for our good and Your glory, I can celebrate! Help me celebrate because You have a plan. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen."

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We don't know what was going on in Mary's head the day before she had a visit from Gabriel, but we know for sure that it wasn't a plan to be the mother of the Savior of the world.

But when her plans changed, she chose to celebrate because God has a plan. She even wrote a joyful song about God's plan!

What is something about God's plan that you can celebrate? It could be something personal in your life—something that you didn't expect that is awesome or even challenging. Or it could be the miracle of Christmas: that God sent Jesus to be our Savior!

Grab a friend or family member and a Christmas treat (hot chocolate is always a win!) and talk about what you're intentionally celebrating. Ask them to share what they can celebrate because God has a plan, and share what you wrote down yesterday. Together, brainstorm ways you can celebrate that plan and pick a date to check in to see how the celebrating is going.



When has something worked out differently than you expected?

Christmas is just a week away, and chances are, some things have already worked out differently this month than you expected. Sometimes things turn out better than you ever dreamed.

When things work out differently than we expect, it can be hard to think about celebrating. But the truth is, there is always something to celebrate—some times we just have to look at it a different way to see it!

When you look at this illustration, what do you see?



Depending on how you see things, you might see a vase, or you might see two face looking at each other. But now that you know that the other perspective exists, you can fix your mind on that way of looking at things and voila!—it's a whole new world.

Hang this illustration up somewhere you will see it this week to remind yourself that God's plan is at work. But when you see it, be sure and celebrate because God has a plan!

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December 19-25



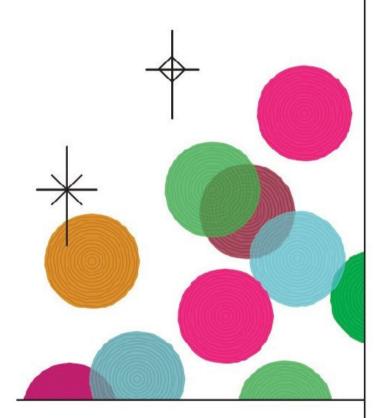
Jesus is born & shepherds visit (Luke 2:1-20)

Collide



Light Show: Let the Christmas celebration begin

Christmas is celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.



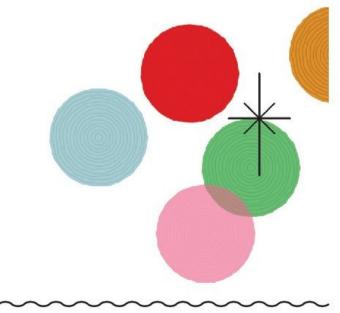
MEMORY VERSE

"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life." John 3:16, NIrV

Bible Story

Jesus Is Born/Shepherds Visit Luke 2:1-20

How are you celebrating Christmas this year?



Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.

HOW	
are you celebrating Christmas this year?	
On Tatinda tina year.	



After watching, write one thing that:

First, watch this week's video!

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1. You liked:

3. You'd like to know:

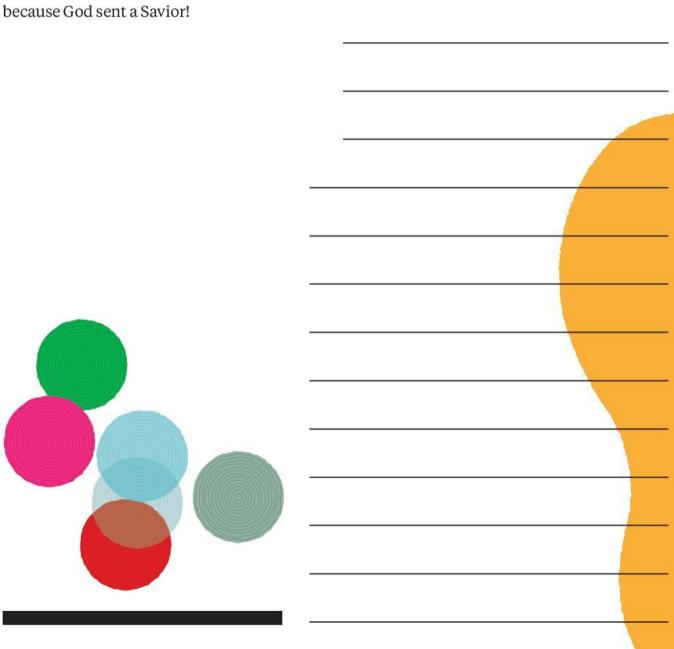
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Read Luke 2:1-20

You are probably super familiar with the story found in Luke 2:1-20. Do you think you could act it out without looking?

Grab your favorite plush animals or action figures, and give it your best shot. Then go back and re-read the story and see how close you got.

Now, grab a family member or friend, and perform the re-enactment for them. You can invite them to participate as well. After all, it's time to celebrate because God sent a Savior!



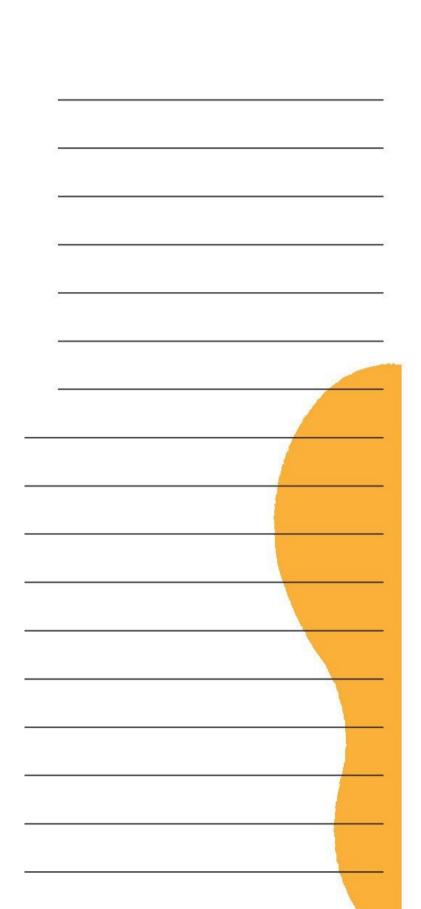
Christmas is such a fun time of year,
but it can also be hard—especially for people who recently lost someone
they love, or who don't have enough
money to buy presents or even pay
their bills.
Today, as you begin celebrating that God sent a Savior, take some time to pray
for the people for whom this is a hard
season.

Read the prayer below, inserting the names and needs into your prayer.

Dear God, thank You for Christmas,
when we celebrate that You sent a
Savior! It's such a wonderful time
of year, but I know it's also hard
for some people, especially
because of

because of

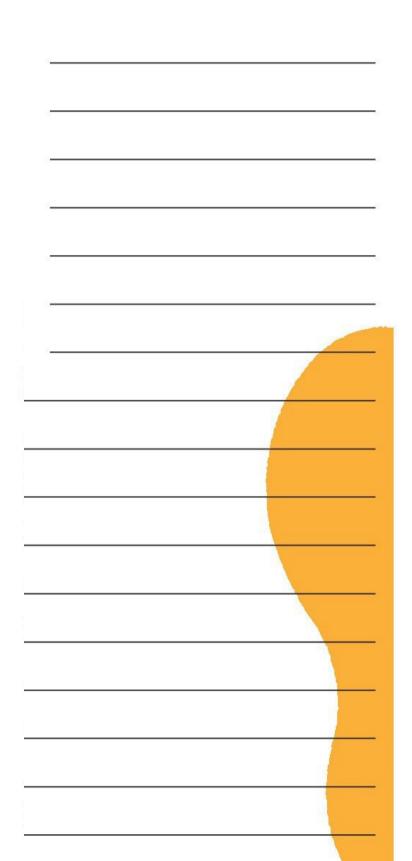
Please use me to show them Your love
for them, and help them to have peace
and joy in this season of celebration. In
Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen.

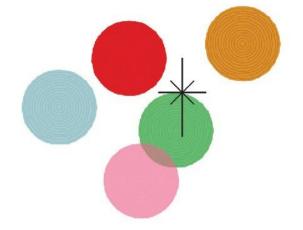


Find a parent and share with them the prayer you prayed yesterday.

Together, brainstorm one thing you could do to show them God's love and help them to celebrate that God sent a Savior.

It could be something as simple as sending them a Christmas card acknowledging the loss of their loved one, or perhaps you could show up with a pre-made Christmas dinner! Choose something that will help them and allow them to celebrate Christmas—when God sent a Savior!





How are you celebrating Christmas this year??

It is time to celebrate because God sent a Savior! Whatever your family has planned, be sure and start the day's festivities by revisiting the story of Jesus' birth. Then, pick a new tradition to start as a family to celebrate, like:

- ☐ Opening one present on Christmas Eve
- ☐ Making a Happy Birthday Jesus cake
- ☐ Roasting marshmallows in the fireplace
- ☐ Reading all the Christmas books you own
- ☐ Making Christmas cookies to deliver to the neighbors

Whatever you choose to do, have a blast—after all it's time to celebrate because God sent a Savior!

December 26-January 1



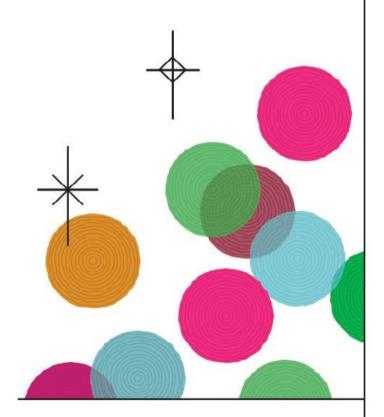
Wise Men (Matthew 2:1-12) DECEMBER
WEEK FOUR

Collide



Light Show: Let the Christmas celebration begin

Christmas is celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.



MEMORY VERSE

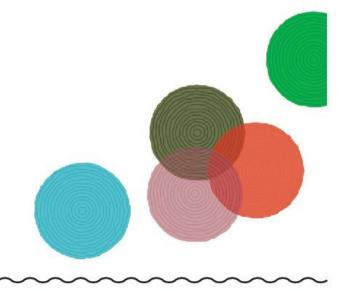
"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life." John 3:16, NIrV

Bible Story

Wise Men

Matthew 2:1-12

How can you celebrate Jesus all year long?



Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.

can you celebrate Jesus all year long?	



First, watch this week's video!

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You	liked:
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2. You learned:

3. You'd like to know:

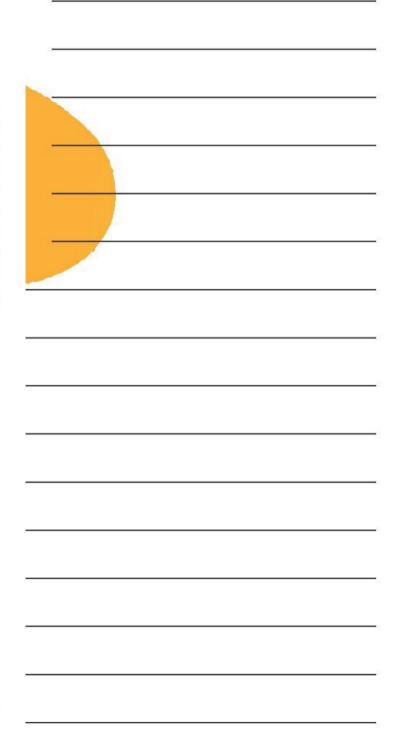
FOR AN everyday faith

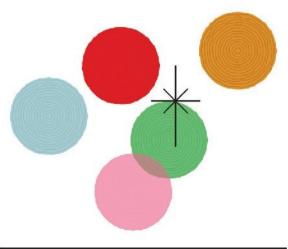
Read Matthew 2:1-12

As you read Matthew 2:1-12, look at each of the following ways the wise men celebrated Jesus.

- They gave Him gifts
- They bowed down
- They searched for Jesus
- They worshipped Him
- They were filled with joy

Now, look at each of the points above. Each of these is a way that you can celebrate Jesus in the coming year as well! You can keep searching to find and know God better. You can worship Him—in song and with your life. You can bow down to pray and tell God how great He is. You can give Jesus the very best gift you have—your heart. And you can be filled with joy as you keep celebrating Jesus long after Christmas ends!



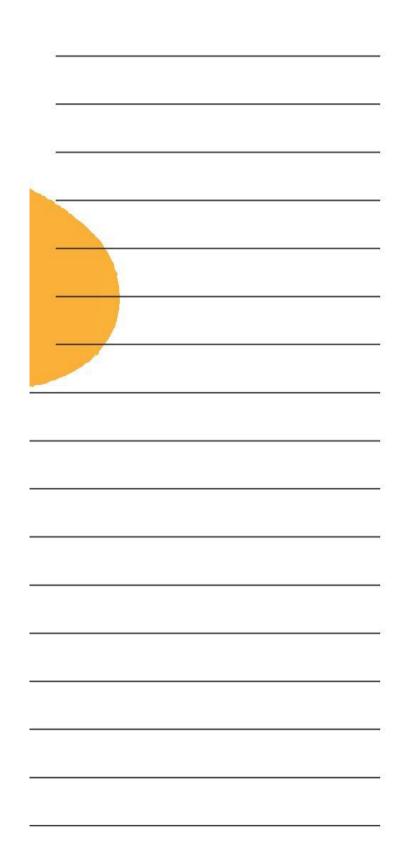


Just as the wise men bowed to worship the Son of God long after the shepherds had returned to their fields and Mary and Joseph had left the place where Jesus was born, you aren't limited to only celebrate Jesus during Christmas!

One of the ways you can keep celebrating Jesus is by talking to Him in prayer every day.

If your family has a Christmas tree and it's still up, go sit by the tree and pray this prayer. You could also play Christmas music quietly in the background.

Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior! This is a really fun time of year when the whole world seems to recognize that You are worthy to be celebrated. But I want to keep celebrating You even after the tree and lights come down. Please help me to remember that I should never stop celebrating Jesus. I want to celebrate God's gift every day, not just at Christmas. Help me to do that by showing others your love with my words and actions. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen.

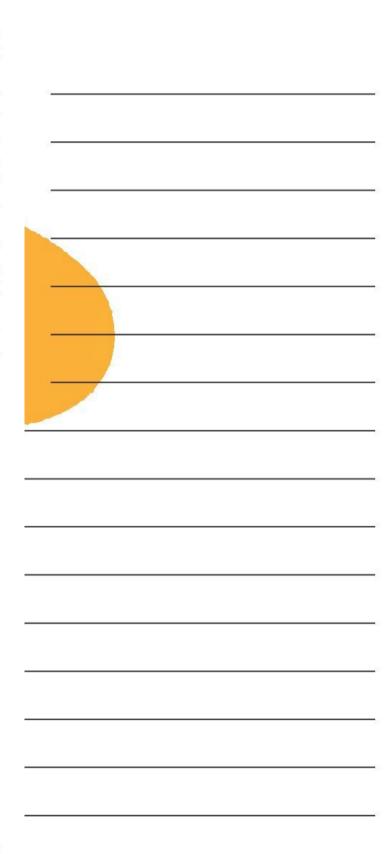


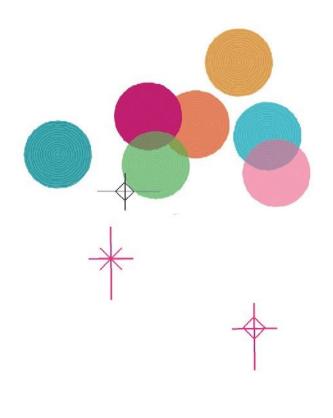
It will be a lot easier to keep the celebrating going year round if you can get your family on board too.

Then together, talk about some things you can do to keep the Christmas spirit going in the new year.

Maybe you can celebrate Jesus by going to church as a family every Sunday you're in town. Or you could commit to do a family Bible study a couple of times a month. You could start a family prayer list on the fridge or somewhere else in the house where everyone can share needs and celebrations that you can talk to God about. Or maybe you will select a non-profit or a local family in need that you can help in some way.

There are so many ways to keep celebrating Jesus, so talk about it and make a plan!





How can you celebrate Jesus all year long?

2021 is almost over, but the party to celebrate Jesus is just getting started. Before you pack up all the Christmas decorations, pick out one Christmas decoration to leave up all year to remind you to **never stop celebrating**Jesus. It might be Christmas lights in your room, or a favorite ornament that you hang on your doorknob. Whatever it is, when you see it, remember to celebrate God's greatest gift: Jesus, our Savior!



WEEK 1

Elizabeth & Zechariah

Luke 1:5-25,57-66



WEEK 2

Gabriel appears to Mary

Luke 1:26-56



WEEK 3

Jesus is born and Shepherds visit Luke 2:1-20



WEEK 4

Wise Men

Matthew 2:1-12

