

SING: O Little Town of Bethlehem



Verse 1

O little town of Bethlehem How still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting Light
The hopes & fears of all the years, Are met in thee tonight

Verse 2

For Christ is born of Mary And gathered all above
While mortals sleep The angels keep their watch of
wondering love
O morning stars together Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King And peace to men
on earth

Verse 3

How silently how silently The wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of
His heaven
No ear may hear His coming But in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive Him still The dear
Christ enters in

Verse 4

O holy Child of Bethlehem Descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in Be born in us today
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell
O come to us abide with us Our Lord Emmanuel

READ: John 1:1-14



DISCUSS:

Who is "the Word"?
What happens to those who receive Him (v. 12)?

SING: Hark the Herald Angels Sing



Verse 1

Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise Join the triumph of the skies
With th'angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King

Verse 2

Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail th'incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell Jesus our Emmanuel
Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King



Verse 3

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace
Hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King



DISCUSS: (Choose a couple of the following prompts to encourage family sharing.)



- + What's your favorite Christmas memory?
- + What's your favorite Christmas song?
- + How would the world be different if Jesus had never been born?
- + When was the last time you felt truly rested and at peace?
- + When do you feel most connected to God?
- + If you had to design the perfect day for the person sitting on your right, what would you include?
- + What's one thing you want to improve about your life next year?
- + What's one Bible verse that has meant a lot to you lately?
- + (Just for fun) If the zombie apocalypse happened, which of us do you think would get eaten first?



PRAY

Allow each person the opportunity to pray. You can go in order around the room. Anyone who does not want to pray can softly tap the next person in the circle.



FAMILY CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Helpful tips:

- + Give everyone advanced notice of when you will be celebrating family Christmas together. Prepare the location for your family Christmas worship.
- + Remove distractions (no electronic devices!).
- + Sit around the living room or at the table after the meal has been cleared.
- + Decorate the area for the special occasion.
- + Adjust the suggested order below according to the needs and attention span of your family members.
- + Maintain a positive and celebratory atmosphere (no complaining allowed on Christmas Day!).
- + Find some way for each family member to contribute:
 - Some can lead the caroling.
 - Some can read the Scriptures or poems.
 - Some can lead the discussion.



PRAY

Thank God for the privilege of celebrating Christmas together. Ask God to fill your hearts with His love, peace, hope, and joy this Christmas season.

SING: O Come All Ye Faithful

Verse 1

O come all ye faithful Joyful and triumphant
O come ye O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him Born the King of angels

Chorus

O come let us adore Him O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him Christ the Lord

Verse 2

Sing choirs of angels Sing in exultation
O sing all ye bright Hosts of heav'n above
Glory to God all glory in the highest

Verse 3

Yea Lord we greet Thee Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be all glory giv'n
Word of the Father Now in flesh appearing

READ: Isaiah 9:6-7

DISCUSS: How is it possible for a child to be called "the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father"?
Isaiah wrote this prophecy over 700 years before the birth of Jesus. How did he know that Jesus was coming?

READ: Matthew 1:18-25

DISCUSS: Why did God choose the name "Jesus"?

SING: Away in a Manger

Verse 1

Away in a manger no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

Verse 2

The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes
I love Thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh

Verse 3

Be near me Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there



SING: Silent Night

Verse 1

Silent night holy night All is calm all is bright
'Round yon virgin mother and child Holy infant so
tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace Sleep in heavenly peace

Verse 2

Silent night holy night Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar Heav'nly hosts sing
alleluia
Christ the Savior is born Christ the Savior is born

Verse 3

Silent night holy night Son of God love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of
redeeming grace
Jesus Lord at Thy birth Jesus Lord at Thy birth

READ: Luke 2:1-20

DISCUSS: Imagine you were with the shepherds that night. What would you have felt? What does it mean that the King of the Universe chose to be born in a stable?

SING: Angels We Have Heard on High

Verse 1

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er
the plains
And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains

Chorus

Glo-----ria in excelsis Deo, Glo-----ria in excelsis Deo

Verse 2

Shepherds why this jubilee Why your joyous
strains prolong, Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song

Verse 3

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the
angels sing, Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King

Verse 4

See within a manger laid Jesus Lord of heav'n
and earth, Mary Joseph lend your aid
With us sing our Savior's birth



READ: Matthew 2:1-23

DISCUSS: Why was Herod troubled by the arrival of the Magi (Wise Men)?
How did the priests know where the Messiah was going to be born?
How did God protect the baby Jesus from King Herod?

READ: We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain moor and mountain
Following yonder star
O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

Born a King on Bethlehem plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever ceasing never
Over us all to reign
Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising gladly raising
Worshipping God on high

Myrrh is mine its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing sighing bleeding dying
Sealed in the stone cold tomb
Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and sacrifice, Alleluia alleluia
Sounds through the earth and skies

O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

