

Simply Christmas: No Assembly Required



First, watch
this week's
video!

Christmas:
Celebrating
Jesus, God's
greatest gift

Memory Verse

Today in the town
of David a Savior
has been born
to you. He is the
Messiah, the Lord.
Luke 2:11, NIV

Bible Story

Jesus is Born
Luke 2:1-7

Key Question

What are you
giving this
Christmas?

Use this guide to help your family celebrate
Christmas all month long.



Activity

Candy Christmas

WHAT YOU NEED:

a computer and a printer—or index cards and a writing utensil

WHAT YOU DO:

Print out pictures of the following candy wrappers: Mr. Goodbar®, Life Savers®, Crunch®, Zero®, Mounds®, PayDay®, gummy bears, mints (such as Altoids®), Almond Joy®. (You can find them by Google searching the candy name and clicking on "Images.") Or you could just write down the names of the candies on index cards. (Or, if you're feeling extra zealous—or hungry!—go and buy each all the candies!)

Mix up the images (or cards) so they're out of order. Spread them on a flat surface where your child can see them all. Tell your child that you're going to use the names of the candies as a prayer of thanks to God for sending us a Savior. As you read, pause to give your child a chance to find and hold up the candy that fits with the word you're saying.

Read: "Dear God, thank You for your GOOD (Mr. Goodbar®) gift. Jesus is the ultimate example of Your love for us. Thank You for giving Your Son to be our SAVIOR (Life Savers®). Even though Mary and Joseph found themselves in a CRUNCH (Crunch®) when it was time for Jesus to be born—and there were ZERO (Zero®) rooms available for them—You had a plan, God!"

"Your plans are MOUNDS (Mounds®) better than our plans! Thank You that we can trust You no matter what. We know that Jesus, the Savior of the world, is better than anything we could ever RECEIVE (PayDay®). Life would be unBEARable (gummy bears) without Him! We MEANT (mint) so much to you, God, and you loved us so much, that you gave us a Savior. And today we get to celebrate, because "JOY (Almond Joy®) to the world, the Lord is come!" Thank You for Your gift of Jesus. Amen!"

Talk About the Bible Story

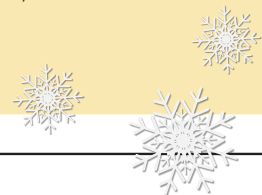
What's the gift you're most excited about giving this year?

What could you give that isn't a "thing"?

Why did God send Jesus for us? (*Because He loves us!*)

Why did we need a Savior? (*We sin, and our sin separates us from God. When Jesus died on the cross, He paid the price for the sins of the world. Jesus made it possible for us to have a relationship with God.*)

How can we thank God for giving us the gift of His Son, Jesus?



Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"Dear God, thank You for loving us so much that You sent us the greatest gift ever—the gift of your Son, Jesus. Please help us to pause this Christmas to remember the real reason we're celebrating. We're celebrating the birth of a baby—a baby who would change everything. Because of Jesus' birth, we can have a relationship with You that will last forever! Help us to think about ways we can share Your love as we give this Christmas. We love You. Amen!"



Day 1

Go to Studio252.tv and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show.

➡ Click on Fun2Watch! then The So & So Show.

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked: _____

2. You learned: _____

3. You'd like to know: _____

Journal

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

**WHAT ARE
YOU GIVING THIS
CHRISTMAS?**

Day 4

Merry Christmas!

Before your family begins celebrating, take some time to read the Christmas story together. Read Luke 2:1-7 together—bonus points if you act out the story using props from around the house.

Then take a minute to share with each other your favorite thing about Christmas, and sing “Joy to the World” or another Christmas song your family loves. Have a wonderful day celebrating the truth that **God loved us so much that He gave us a Savior.**



Day 5

We give gifts at Christmas to celebrate the fact that God gave us the greatest gift in Jesus.

But just as the gift of Jesus isn’t something we should only celebrate at Christmas, we can give gifts to each other the whole year long.

And gifts don’t require money . . . you can give the gift of:

Your time _____

Your talents _____

Your experience _____

Your resources (donate gently used items) _____

Your hope in Jesus _____

In the blanks in the list above, write a way that you could give that away, and the person you could share it with. Then, circle one that you will give away this week in honor of the gift of Jesus!

Day 2

Read Luke 2:1-7

The Christmas story—the story of Jesus’ birth—is the greatest story ever told. Before you re-read Luke 2:1-7, try to fill out the details of the Christmas story below from memory. Then check your list against the answers below.

The Characters

The Settings:

Props

Unlike a movie or a book, every detail of this story is true! And the best part is the reason for this story at all: that God loved us so much that He gave us a Savior!

Characters: Caesar Augustus, Quirinius, Joseph, David, Mary, Jesus; Settings: the Roman world, Syria, Nazareth, Galilee, Judea, Bethlehem; Props: large strips of cloth, manger



Day 3

There are a lot of ways we celebrate Christmas: singing songs, going to church, exchanging presents, sharing a meal with our family. Don’t forget one simple but important way to celebrate: thank God for sending Jesus! Before you jump into whatever celebrations your family has planned over the next few days, take a moment in the quiet to thank God for giving us a Savior.

Here are some things you can pray for:

- 1) Thank God for giving us Jesus
- 2) Thank God for your family and friends
- 3) Ask God to provide comfort and healing to family and friends who are hurting this holiday season (pray for them by name)
- 4) Ask God to give your family a great Christmas
- 5) Thank God for what Christmas means—forgiveness and living with God forever!

**DECEMBER
2020**

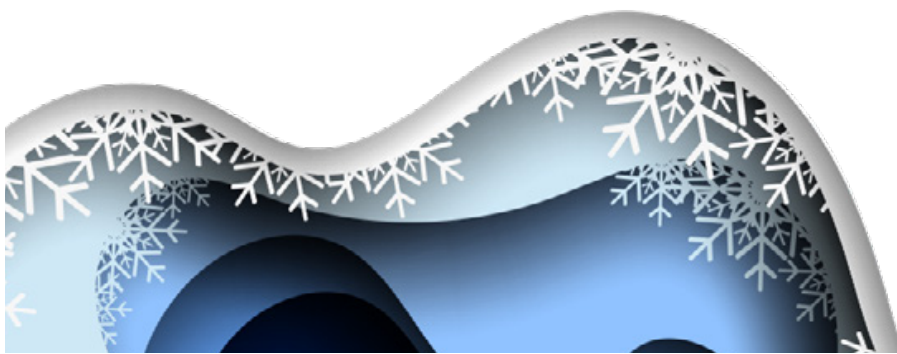
Pret
WEEKLY



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