

CHRIST MAS *Carols*



Table OF Contents

O Come, O Come Emmanuel



Joy to the World



O, Holy Night



We Three Kings of Orient Are



Silent Night



Angels We Have Heard on High



Go Tell it on the Mountain



Other Resources



LISTENING & SINGALONG

We've compiled a few playlists of these songs.
"Listen & Singalong" with your family!



Spotify Playlist:

"Intentional CHRISTmas"

The YouTube logo, featuring the word "You" in black and "Tube" in white on a red background, is enclosed in a white rounded rectangle on the left side of the page.

YouTube

Karaoke w/ lyrics, no vocals

<http://bit.ly/CHRISTmascarolskaraoke>

Singalong w/ lyrics and vocals

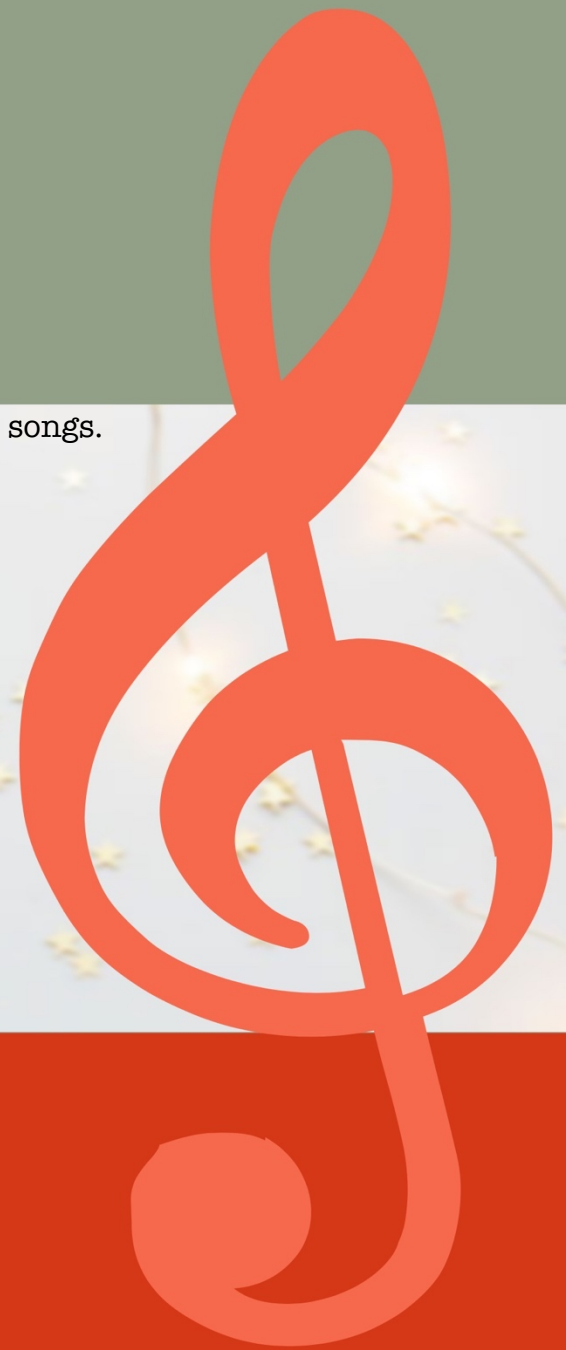
<http://bit.ly/CHRISTmascarolssingalong>

Listening Music

<http://bit.ly/CHRISTmascarolslistening>

Instrumental Piano of Carols

<http://bit.ly/CHRISTmascarolsinstrumental>



Oh Come Oh Come Emmanuel

O come, O come, **Emmanuel**
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely *exile* here
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! **Emmanuel**
Shall come to thee, O Israel.
Rejoice! Rejoice! **Emmanuel**
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of hell Thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave.

Rejoice! Rejoice! **Emmanuel**
Shall come to thee, O Israel.
Rejoice! Rejoice! **Emmanuel**
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine *advent* here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! **Emmanuel**
Shall come to thee, O Israel.





"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" was first known as "Veni, Veni Emmanuel". Yes, in fact, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" was originally written in Latin and dates as far back as the 8th century (701 BC- 800 BC). "Veni, Veni Emmanuel" came from a series of plainchants that were sung by monks during the advent season of the church. "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" did not come on the scene (in its English form) until 1710 in a Hymnal and it has been a Christmas staple ever since! Rightfully so, due to its rich theology.

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" is written from the perspective of Israel living in exile desiring their long-prophesied savior, Emmanuel. Matthew 1:23 tells us that Jesus is the one named "Emmanuel" which translates to "God with us".

Jesus is also the Rod of Jesse as described in verse 2. From the creation God has been making covenants with his people. One such covenant was given to King David (the son of Jesse) that his throne would be established forever. How does that work when his grandson becomes the first of many disobedient kings who lead Israel into division and ultimately exile? Isaiah 11 speaks of a rod (or shoot) that will rise from the stump of Jesse. On that rod will rest the Spirit of the LORD. Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph. Joseph was a direct descendant of Jesse and King David. This makes Jesus the Rod of Jesse to set Israel free from Satan, hell, and the grave

Scripture:



Isaiah 7:14 "All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel. "(which means 'God is with us.')

Matthew 1:23 "Look! The virgin will conceive a Child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"

Vocabulary



Emmanuel: God is with us

exile: banished from nation

When the Jewish people disobeyed God they were sent into exile in Babylon and Assyria.

1 Chronicles 9:1 & 2 Kings 17

Check out "The Bible Project: Exile" on youtube.

Rejoice: to feel or show great joy or delight

advent: the coming or arrival of a notable person

Discussion Questions



Why is Jesus' coming to earth a reason to have joy and delight? Did you know that Jesus will come again someday to defeat Satan?

What do you think 'God with us' means?

Is God with us now?

Check out:
John 14:26,
Romans 8:9,
Romans 8:11

Do you (or we) need to be set free from sin? How are we set free from sin?

Joy to the World

Joy to the World, the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing

Joy to the World, the *Savior* reigns!
Let me their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and
plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as, far as, the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and *grace*
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders, of His love.





“Joy to the World” was originally written as a poem (not a song) in 1719 by a man named Isaac Watts. The lyrics were simply Watts’ interpretation of Psalm 96 and 98 that he published in a book of other spiritually inspired poems. Over a hundred years later, the second half of Watt’s poem was put to music and became one of the most iconic Christmas carols.

Scripture:



Psalm 96:11-13

“Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;
Let the sea resound, and all that is in it.
Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;
Let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

Let all creation rejoice before the Lord, for he comes,
He comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness
And the peoples in his faithfulness.”

Vocabulary



Joy: a feeling of great happiness

Savior: a person who saves someone or something. In Christianity, Jesus is our savior because he has saved us from the penalty of sin which is death. Romans 6:23

Grace: unmerited favor, which means getting something you don’t deserve.

Righteousness: is one of the chief attributes of God (Matthew 6:33). It means “the quality of being morally correct and justifiable.” <https://www.lexico.com/definition/righteousness>

YAY GOD’S

Yay God conversations are a fun and simple way to practice worship as a family.

Whether it’s while driving home from school or at the dinner table that night, ask your family to share something the God did for them that day. These things could be: “He woke me up this morning”, “He gave me food today”, “He brought me a good friend”, etc.

After each thing is shared the entire family responds by saying “Yay God!”

Discussion Questions



What makes you feel joy?

How does Jesus bring joy to the world?

Have you ever received grace?

How could someone receive grace from Jesus?

O Holy Night

O holy night the stars are brightly shining

It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth

A thrill of **hope** the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn
Fall on your knees

O hear the angels' voices

O night *divine*

O night when Christ was born

O night *divine* O night

O night *divine*

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts by his cradle we stand
So led by the light of a star sweetly gleaming
Here come the wise men from Orient land
The King of kings thus lay in lowly manger

In all our trials born to be our friend

He knows our needs

To our weakness no stranger

Behold your king

Before him lowly bend

Behold your king

Your king

Before him bend

Truly He taught us to love one another

His law is love and His gospel is peace

Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother

And in His name all oppression shall cease

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we

Let all within us praise His holy name

Christ is the Lord!

O praise His name forever

His power and glory

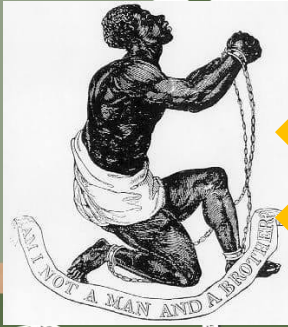
Evermore proclaim

His power and glory

Evermore proclaim



History:



This song was translated into English by John Sullivan, a well-known abolitionist during the Civil War. It quickly resonated with Americans in the North, encouraging them in their cause of seeking an end to the practice of human slavery.

At the end of 1843, in the French town of Roquemaure, the church organ had been newly renovated. In celebration of this occasion, a merchant and poet, Placide Cappeau, was commissioned to write a poem. Later that year, Adolphe Adam, arranged the poetry into a song. The song became very popular and would be sung by many.

Aside from the song's musical popularity, the words beautifully map out the Christmas story and the power behind Jesus' coming. The lyrics are direct commands to praise, "Fall on your knees." "Behold your King! Before him lowly bend." "His power and glory evermore proclaim."

Scripture:



Galatians 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

Psalms 139:7-8
"Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
If I make my bed in the depths, you are there."

Romans 8:22 "We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time."

Leviticus 19:2 "Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: 'Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy.'"

Leviticus 20:26 "You are to be holy to me because I, the LORD, am holy and I have set you apart from the nations to be my own."

Vocabulary



Holy: 'set apart,' having a spiritually pure quality.

Divine: devoted to God, sacred.

Hope: "...the confident expectation of what God has promised..."

In all our trials born to be our friend:

As followers of Jesus, when we face struggles, we are always accompanied by God's Spirit.

Grateful chorus raise we: This means, "we will sing loudly, a song to tell how thankful we are."

Discussion Questions



Have you ever gotten on your knees before Jesus? Why or why not? Should you try it?

God says to "be holy for I am holy" (Leviticus 19:2). Using the definition above, why do you think God wants us to be set apart? What does being 'set apart' for God look like in our daily lives?

When we celebrate Christmas, how can we remember the holiness of Jesus' birth?

We Three Kings of Orient are

We three kings of *Orient* are
Bearing gifts, we *traverse* afar
Field and fountain
Moor and mountain
Following yonder star

Oh, star of wonder, star of might
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading
Still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light

Born a babe on Bethlehem's plain
Gold we bring to crown him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign

Oh, star of wonder, star of might
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading
Still proceeding
Guide us to the perfect light

Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a deity **nigh**
Prayer and praising, all men raising
Worship God on high

Oh, star of wonder, star of might
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading
Still proceeding
Guide us to the perfect light





In 1857, John Henry Hopkins Jr. was the rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Pennsylvania. He wrote the lyrics and the music to “We Three Kings” for a Christmas pageant in NYC. The original version had 5 verses. The first verse was an introduction. The next three verses were solos for three different male voices, each portraying one of the Magi. Each one offered a gift, first gold, then frankincense, and then myrrh. The last verse was a hymn of worship with all three “magi” together, offering up their praise to God. The song, “We Three Kings” is unique in its solemn and shifting tone, reminiscent of Middle Eastern music. Also, most Christmas carols originated in Europe and spread to the U.S., but this song originated in the U.S. and was so popular that it spread to Europe!

Scripture:



Matthew 2:1-12 The Magi Visit the Messiah
“After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written

: “‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When

they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.”

Psalm 96:3 “Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.”

Check out these cool Old Testament verses that foreshadow the coming of the Magi:
Isaiah 60:5b-6 & Psalm 72:10. 15

Vocabulary



Orient: countries in the East or Asia

Moor: a large area of open land without farming

Traverse: to travel across or through

Nigh: close

Frankincense: an expensive, fine smelling incense made from the gum resin of trees only found in Arabia & E. Africa

Discussion Questions



(According to the Scriptures, we do not know the names of the magi, how many there were, or whether they were royalty. The text only says, “magi from the East.” Tradition has given them names [Melchior, Balthazar... and Caspar!], numbers, and called them kings. The number 3 was based on the fact that three gifts were mentioned.)

God announced the birth of Jesus to the Wise Men who lived far away, spoke different languages, and had a different culture. What does this tell us about God? (Who does God want to know about Jesus?)

What were the three gifts the Magi brought?

What does the biblical account of Matthew 2 tell us about the Magi?

Silent Night

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

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly Hosts sing '**Alleluia!**'
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born

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





The year was 1818 and it was Christmas Eve in the snow-covered Austrian village of Oberndorf. Pastor Joseph Mohr had a problem. The organ at the church of St. Nicolas was broken. What would he do for music at the Christmas Mass that midnight? Music was very important to Austrians (think Haydn, Schubert, & the VonTrapp family from the Sound of Music). Mohr reflected on the peaceful snow-covered town and began to imagine the scene of the very first Christmas described in the Bible.

He wrote a poem called, "Stille Nacht," Silent Night in German. Mohr ran over to the home of his friend, Franz Grueber, a school master and the church organist. Mohr asked Franz Grueber to write a simple tune for his poem. (This was how hymns were written in the past—first, a poem and then a tune was added.) That evening Franz composed a simple tune. Then, Father Mohr did something radical... he played his guitar in church!

The two men's voices and simple guitar replaced the organ and choir that Christmas Eve as the two men shared Silent Night for the first time. Silent Night has now been sung around the world and in over 100 different languages! In English, we sing verses translated by Episcopal priest John Freeman Young in 1859.

Scripture:



Luke 2:4-12 "So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to. Her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Vocabulary



Heavenly Hosts— another word for angels. The phrase "heavenly host" (Luke 2:13) refers to an army of angels. In the Bible, God is described as Lord Sabaoth, the Lord of the heavenly armies. In our Christmas nativity scenes, angels are usually depicted as usually beautiful women in flowing gowns with warm smiles. In the Bible, the angels mentioned by name are male, like Gabriel and Michael. They are power warriors, agents for God's kingdom who do battle in the heavenly realm. When people saw angels, they were usually afraid. That's why the first thing angels often say to people is, "Fear not." (Maybe I should switch out an action figure with a sword for my flowy dressed angel in my nativity scene!)

Alleluia— "Praise the Lord." Alleluia is a variant of the Hebrew word also translated as "Hallelujah" which means "Praise Ye Yah." "Ye" means you plural (you all or y'all in the south) and "Yah" is short for "Yahweh," the sacred name of God. So, this one word is an entire Hebrew sentence, a command to praise God, often rendered in English as "Praise the Lord."

Round-around

Yon-yonder, over there.

Want to know more about what the Bible has to say about angels? Read and watch a video at <https://zondervanacademic.com/blog/biblical-facts-angels> or check out the Bible Project Theme video about "Angels & Cherubim" at <https://youtu.be/-bMRxQbLUlg>. These are pretty deep & detailed, so parents could read/watch and summarize for a child.

Discussion Questions



How do you imagine the scene of baby Jesus and his mother, Mary? Do you think there was crying or silence? Why?

Why do you think the shepherds "quaked" or trembled with fear when they heard the heavenly hosts?

The song says that Jesus' birth was the dawn (or beginning) of redeeming grace. How did Jesus bring redeeming grace?

Angels we have heard on high

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

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

Shepherds, why this **jubilee**?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

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

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

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





In 1862, James Chadwick, a Catholic Bishop in England wrote the English lyrics to "Angels We Have Heard on High" as a rough translation of a French song called "Les Anges dans nos campagnes" (The Angels in Our Countryside). The song is based on a scene in the Gospel of Luke where shepherds outside Bethlehem encounter multitudes of angels rejoicing and announcing the good news of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Scripture:



Matthew 2:8-20 "And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, And on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.'"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that happened, which the Lord has told us about.' So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told."

Vocabulary



Gloria in excelsis Deo: this phrase means "Glory to God in the Highest" in Latin. This is what the angels said in the first line of Luke 2:14.

Jubilee:
celebration and
rejoicing

"Why your joyous strains prolong?" Why do you continue your joyful singing?

Gladsome tidings good news

Discussion Questions



Why do you think the angels were so excited?

"Ba."

What did the shepherds decide to do after hearing the announcement?



Shepherds were not important people in ancient culture. They were poor, smelly and lived apart with their sheep in remote places so they could graze their flocks. Why do you think God decided to announce the good news to shepherds?

Go tell it on the mountain

Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.

1. While shepherds kept their
watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. [Refrain]

2. The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that **hailed** our Savior's birth.
[Refrain]

3. Down in a lowly *manger*
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas *morn.*
[Refrain]





December 6, 1865, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution formally ended slavery in the United States. Many Christians, both black and white, had fought for the abolition (or ending) of slavery in the U.S. In the exciting and challenging years that followed, an extraordinary young man was born, John Wesley Work, Jr.. He grew up in Nashville as the son of a church choir director. He studied at Fisk University and Harvard College. He taught Latin and Greek and would go on to become a college president, yet he is most remembered as being the first person to collect African-American spiritual songs.

These songs had been passed on orally, from plantation to plantation, during the dark era of slavery. By collecting, compiling, and performing these songs with the Fisk University Jubilee Singers, John Wesley Work Jr. shared these songs with the world. One of these songs that Mr. Work either compiled or helped to compose was "Go, Tell it on the Mountain." The world is indebted to Work for preserving these songs that are rich in soul, suffering, hope and Christian truth for generations to come.

Scripture:

The Great Commission Matthew 28:18-20

"Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'"

Matthew 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations..."

Mark 16:15 "He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.'"

Vocabulary

Lo: "Look!" an exclamation used to draw the reader's attention to a new scene.

Hailed: greeted with enthusiastic approval

Manger: a long open box or trough usually filled with feed that horses or cattle eat from

Morn: morning

Discussion Questions

When someone decides to "Go, tell it on the mountain," what are they telling others?

Where are the places the song commands us to tell others the good news?

Does the Bible command us to "go" and tell the good news about Jesus? (Matt 28:28)

Do you think a manger is a nice place to lay a newborn baby? Do you think a stable or barn is a nice place to give birth to a baby?

Why is it unusual that a king would be born in a stable and visited by shepherds?

Videos for Kids

Check out this **YouTube playlist** for the following Kid CHRISTmas videos:

<http://bit.ly/CHRISTmasvideosforkids>

https://youtu.be/WDbn_XrVvIg The Story of Christmas - Jesus is born - The Beginners Bible
<https://youtu.be/Oib2-uPGMpE> Mary and Joseph Christmas Story - Luke 2 ShareFaithKids.com
<https://youtu.be/duq2LFiTpic> The Story of Christmas | Elementary Lesson 1, Saddleback Kids
<https://youtu.be/1f19laM4ViM> Superbook - Episode 8 - The First Christmas (22 mins)
<https://youtu.be/nk58bHnJLD4> God's Story: Christmas
<https://youtu.be/FrOBJo6LNfw> God's Story: Jesus is Born
<https://youtu.be/JyVXIvdTF2O> The Birth of Jesus Christ | Animated Children's Bible Stories
<https://youtu.be/VRWc9oNhUgk> Christmas Bible Quiz for Kids | Sharefaith.com
<https://youtu.be/suowe2czxcA> Christmas According to Kids - Southland Christian Church
<https://youtu.be/zl2HVhwqnMs> The Christmas Story - Birth Of JESUS CHRIST
<https://youtu.be/VySzDA07N-c> Three Wise Men - Matthew 2 || Sharefaithkids.com

Longer Movies

The Very First Noel, 2006, Animated Short (for kids)

What's in the Bible: Why Do They Call It Christmas? (for kids)

The Nativity Story, Full Length Film 2006, (for teens & adults)

Activities

What God Wants for Christmas, An Interactive kid-friendly Nativity by FamilyLife

The Twelve Names of Christmas Ornaments, 12 Ornaments & a read-aloud story by FamilyLife

Books

Check out Christ-centered Christmas books from your local library or build your own collection. (Usually these can be found at thrift stores and garage sales, too!) Try a family read aloud at bed time! We have enjoyed reading books about the nativity story, the origins of Christmas traditions and carols, and how Christmas is celebrated around the world.

There are tons of great books...

Let's Remember Jesus' Birth on Christmas (board book)

Mortimer's Christmas Manger (early grade school)

What's your favorite?

Listen to Scripture with your Family!

Check Out this **YouTube Playlist** of Audio & Video Scripture: <http://bit.ly/CHRISTmasscripture>

<https://youtu.be/QDCppAneIDI> The Nativity Story Movie excerpts with NKJV scripture
<https://youtu.be/XC-YouGZb8> NIV Audio Bible. The New Testament Luke 2 (Audio & Text)
https://youtu.be/VIPYifgWY_k Gospel of Luke NLT Audio Bible (Audio only)
<https://youtu.be/gZjWtlnRDHM> The Christmas Story NKJV Audio Bible Dramatized
<https://youtu.be/1ObK27ZVz1I> KJV Audio: The Christmas Story - read by Christopher Glyn
<https://youtu.be/UOL7oze5F5o> The Christmas Story - Bible Verses Narrated by Joshua Masters
<https://youtu.be/QID2ICHH7LA> Listen to a child reading a scripture medley.

Learn about Scripture with your Family!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPOU74GKDIA> What's in the Bible: Why do they call it Christmas?
(for kids, free partial excerpt)
https://youtu.be/_OLEzoUvOEQ The Bible Project, The Birth of Jesus - Gospel of Luke Ch. 1-2 (Geared to adults or older teens)

Read Scripture with your Family!

Where in the Bible is the Christmas story?

The main accounts of the birth of Jesus are in Matthew Chapters 1 & 2 and Luke Chapters 1 & 2. In Matthew Chapters 1 and 2, Matthew's goal is to convince Jewish readers that Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophecies of the Hebrew scriptures. Matthew wants to convince his Jewish brothers that Jesus is the long awaited Messiah. Matthew also tells about the Magi from the East. Luke, on the other hand, is not Jewish, but a Greek doctor. His goal is to draw up a factual account of the birth of Christ and root it concretely in a historical setting. Luke highlights how outsiders, poor shepherds and women, are key players in God's new kingdom. There is room for everyone! There are also many other prophecies about Christ in the Old Testament and reflections about the significance of his coming in the New Testament.

Try reading or listening to the biblical accounts of the Nativity in Luke 1 & 2 and Matthew 1 & 2. How are they similar? How is each unique? (For younger readers, try the following translations: NIV, NLT, CEV, or read from a children's Bible/)

The Scripture passages below are in a variety of translations. Feel free to use your preferred translation, or experiment with a variety of translations to see different aspects of the text. Try parents reading, kids reading, audio bible, video bible, or even act it out!

