

Celebrating CHRISTmas

Daily Activities to Celebrate Christmas and the Birth of Christ



Samples



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Celebrating CHRISTmas

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Christmas and the Birth of Christ

Celebrating CHRISTmas: Daily Activities to Celebrate Christmas and the Birth of Christ

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<http://www.hubbardscupboard.org/christmas.html>.

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Thank you!

Celebrating CHRISTmas

Daily Activities to Celebrate Christmas and the Birth of Christ



Thank you for downloading this activity guide! These readings and activities have been created and compiled over the last eight years, being expanded and refined as I used them with our own children (from ages 2-10). Please know that I didn't do every reading and activity each year as written. So, feel free to use the portions that might work with your schedule and your unique family, during the season of life that God has you in. I realize that it changes each year! Also, there are usually several different ideas listed for the craft/ activity for each day. You may wish to choose one project to do with your whole family or select a couple different ones to meet the varying ages and abilities of your children. In that way, this activity guide can be used over multiple years and grow with your child!

Through Scripture reading, Bible memory, and fun, hands on activities that relate to God's Word and the season, my prayer is that children would learn the true meaning of Christmas, hide God's Word in their hearts, and experience the awe, hope, love, and joy of our Lord and Savior. May Jesus be magnified!

***And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.
We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only,
who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.***

John 1:14

May you and your children be blessed as you celebrate the One True Savior this Christmas!

Michelle

Preparation Resources

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Samples

Preparation – Activity Cards Option

Cut apart the cards. Staple the like numerals together. Place each set of numerals in an advent calendar. Have your child remove one each day and complete what the card says...



= Scripture Reading



= Bible Memory



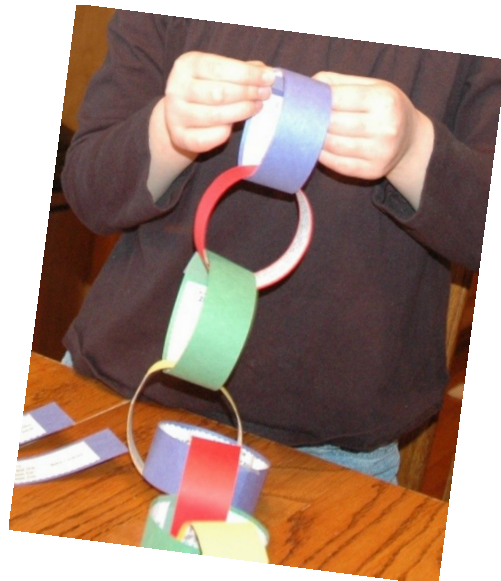
= Craft or Activity



<h2>1</h2> <p><i>Old Testament foretold the birth of God's chosen King and Savior</i></p> <p> Isaiah 7:14 Isaiah 9:2, 6-7</p> <p> Memorize: Luke 2:1</p> <p> Set up nativity. Start countdown.</p>	<h2>2</h2> <p><i>Angel Tells Zechariah of John's Coming Birth</i></p> <p> Luke 1:5-25</p> <p> Memorize: Luke 2:2</p> <p> Angel craft</p>	<h2>3</h2> <p><i>Angel Tells Mary of Jesus' Coming Birth</i></p> <p> Luke 1:26-38</p> <p> Memorize: Luke 2:3</p> <p> Angel craft</p>	<h2>4</h2> <p><i>Mary Shares Her Good News and Joy</i></p> <p> Luke 1:39-56</p> <p> Memorize: Luke 2:4</p> <p> Instrument</p>
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Preparation – Activity Chain Option

Cut apart the strips. Cut pieces of scrapbook paper or construction paper into 9 inch by 1 ½ inch lengths. Have your child glue the activity strips to the colored paper. Glue or tape the ends of each strip, interlocking them to form a chain. Hang, allowing the number one to be at the bottom and accessible for December 1. Have your child remove one each day and complete what the strip says. Each strip of the Activity Chain contains a verse to meditate on, Scripture verses to read as a family, and an activity to complete. The strips do *not* contain the Luke 2 memorization aspect.



Preparation – Star Advent Charts

Are your kids constantly asking you, 'How many more days until Christmas?' Try this to help them and you during this season!

- 1) Print the chart that is best suited for your child. (See the next few pages for choices.)
- 2) Give him/her 24 foil star stickers (or any other type of small star sticker).
- 3) Each night, before bed, have your child place one sticker on the numeral that corresponds to the date. This applies to the numeral chart, the addition, multiplication, and division charts. For the colors, shapes, and sight word charts, have your child point to the color, shape, or word, say it aloud, and then attach a sticker to the top.
- 4) Once all 24 star stickers are on, the next morning will be Christmas!



Choices for Star Advent Charts:

Shapes

Colors and Shapes

Numerals

Easy Sight Words

Harder Sight Words

Addition – Sums up to 10

Addition – Sums 1-25

Addition and Multiplication – 1 to 25

Division – 1 to 25



Preparation – Luke 2 Bible Memory

Little children can hide God's Word in their hearts. They really can! Ever since our oldest daughter was a little over 2 years old, I began to align key Bible verse to familiar children's songs. This has allowed for the verses to not only be read, but sung as well. Each Joyful Heart Tune Chart (at http://www.hubbardscupboard.org/bible_memorization.html) has the Scripture reference, name of the tune used to sing it, a picture aid, and the verse typed out according to how you would sing it with your child. We have found this most helpful for toddlers just starting to memorize Scripture. Of course, our older children still enjoy it, too! What a joy this brings to our hearts to hear our children singing God's Word!

One December, our family attempted to memorize a longer passage without a tune, Luke 2:1-20. We used picture charts, copywork, and fill in the blank verse sheets to help our children along the way. The reciting and discussion of the verses were intended to be just for my husband and I with the oldest three kids. However, our 2 1/2 year old had often been present while we were reciting it and quickly caught on to the words. (Well, most of them.) If you like, you can listen to her (with a little verbal prompting from mama) on my blog post at <http://joytotheheart.org/2010/12/17/declaring-the-great-news/> . We were amazed!

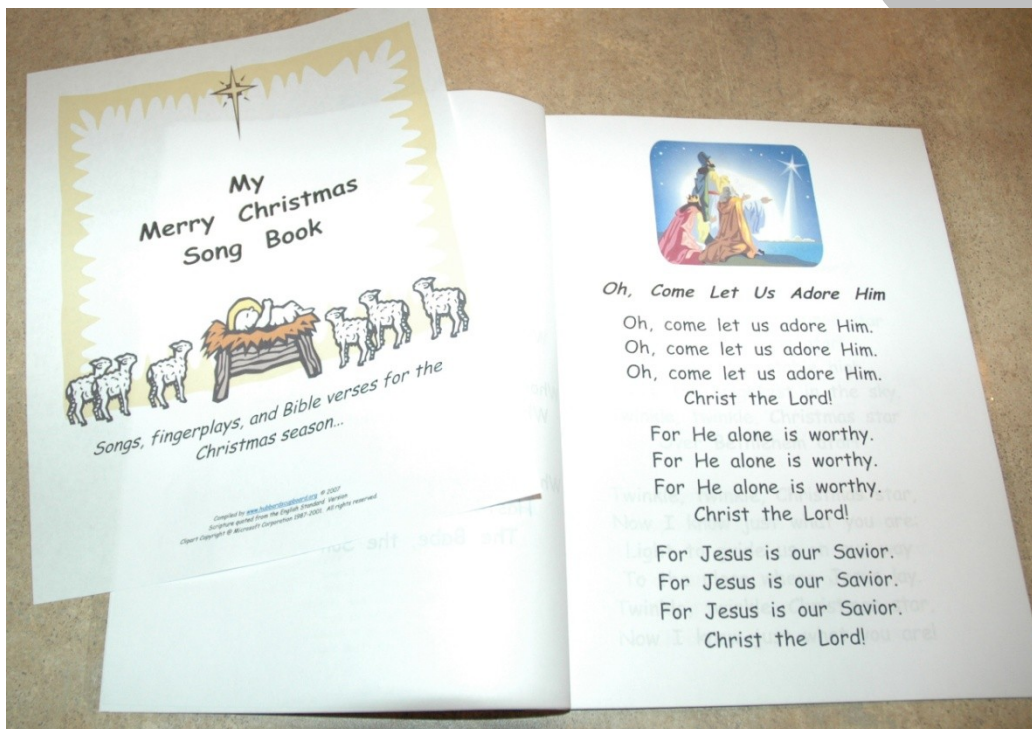
I am pleasantly surprised each day at how much the littlest lives in our home are able to learn and process in their hearts and minds. Why not let your littlest join in with your older children, too? Even if they can't say the words, they are hearing and learning from His Word!

The next few pages contain verse charts, fill in the blank sheets, and copywork to correspond with Luke 2.



Preparation – Christmas Song Book

Teach your children hymns, traditional Christmas melodies, and some fun action songs! Print out each sheet in the 'My Merry Christmas Song Book'. Bind it. I would suggest using a 3 prong pocket folder. Then, you are ready to sing and celebrate Jesus through song throughout the Christmas season!



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- 1) Set up your Nativity set, but have the Baby Jesus wrapped in a special box. Set aside.
- 2) Show the Old and New Testament portions of the Bible.
- 3) Read **Isaiah 7:14** and **Isaiah 9:2, 6-7**.
- 4) Explain that in the Old Testament of the Bible, many people were anxiously awaiting the arrival of the King spoken about in the Bible. The Old Testament foretold the birth of God's chosen King and Savior.
- 5) Have your child unwrap the small gift box.
- 6) The Old Testament was telling us of Jesus! Explain that the New Testament is the fulfilling of the prophecies and shows Jesus' ministry and love for us.
- 7) Sing 'Jesus Loves Me.'
- 8) Place Baby Jesus in the Nativity.



Luke 2:1

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.



- Make an edible scroll! This is simply made from a fruit roll up and 2 pretzel sticks.
- Before bed, begin the 'Countdown to Christmas' using one of the printable Star Advent Charts found in the Preparation Resources on pages 16 – 25.

God was faithful and kept His promise to send a Savior. He sent His One and Only Son - Jesus!



Edible Scroll