

Christmas Devotional & Discussion Questions

As you gather with family and friends, take a few moments to reflect on God's gift of Jesus. You may want to read aloud one of the Christmas accounts, especially Luke 2:1-20 or Matthew 1: 18 to 2:12; or Isaiah 9:1-7, as you give thanks and celebrate God's provision of Emmanuel, "God with us."

Christmas Quiz:

1. True or False: Christmas has always been celebrated on December 25.
2. True or False: The details of birth of Jesus are recorded in all four gospels.
3. Where was Joseph's family originally from (Luke 2:4)? (a) Bethlehem (b) Jerusalem (c) Nazareth (d) Minnesota
4. How did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem? (a) camel (b) donkey (c) on foot (d) Volkswagen (e) Joseph walked, Mary rode a donkey (f) no one knows
5. True or False: Mary and Joseph were married when Mary became pregnant (Matt 1:18).
6. True or False: Mary and Joseph were married when Jesus was born (Matt 1:24).
7. Who was the governor of Syria when Jesus was born (Luke 2:1)? (a) Herod the Great (b) Jesse Ventura (c) Quirinius (d) Caesar Augustus
8. True or False: Jesus was 8 days old when he was presented to the Lord at the Temple. (Luke 2:21-22)

Answers: 1 False; 2 False; 3 A; 4 F; 5 False; 6 True; 7 True; 8 False

Discussion points/activities on reverse side...

Discussion: *(Choose one or both of the following scriptures to read and discuss.)*

- **Luke 1:31-33**

Who might we expect to come and save the world? A strong ruler? A powerful military leader? A smart politician? These expectations make sense. But, God decided that the savior of the world would enter the world just as we all have done, as a baby. Jesus did not seek political office. He did not try to overthrow governments. He came in obedience to do the will of His Heavenly Father. Through his obedience, and by His death and resurrection, He proved to be the Son of God.

1. What examples from Jesus' life demonstrate He was a different kind of leader than what the world was accustomed to experiencing?
2. What is the significance of the name "Jesus?"

- **Isaiah 9:6**

1. In what ways has Jesus been a Wonderful Counselor to you?
2. How has He been the Prince of Peace in your life?

Family Activity:

- On a sheet of paper use a marker (maybe one in Christmas colors) to write the words, "Welcome Jesus!" at the top. Then, make a list of all of the things that made Jesus special. For example, one item might be "He healed the sick." Another might be, "He was humble and gentle." When complete, display the list in a place where everyone can be easily reminded of Jesus, the Son of God, whose coming we celebrate.

Christmas Prayer:

- Pick a favorite Christmas carol, such as "What Child is This," and read the lyrics to God as a prayer.