

DECEMBER 24-25, 2015
CHRISTMAS EVE,
CHRISTMAS DAY

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home

Born for you today is Christ the Lord!

CHRISTMAS BIBLE READINGS

Take time to read and reflect upon these Bible passages as part of your Christmas celebrations.

Thursday	Isaiah 52:7-10	The Lord comforts his people
	Matthew 1:18-24	Immanuel, God is with us
Friday	Luke 2:1-20	The birth of Jesus
	John 1:1-14	The Word became human

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But the angel said, “Don’t be afraid! I have good news for you, which will make everyone happy. This very day in King David’s hometown a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord. **Luke 2:10-11 (CEV)**

SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:

A Prayer for Christmas:

O God in Heaven, as we open these gifts today we give you thanks for the greatest gift of all, your Son Jesus. Fill our home with his love and our hearts with his peace. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

We thank you, O God, for the love between us, for food that feeds us, and for the gift of your Son to redeem us. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God’s favor rest on you, and may the good news of Jesus’ birth bring you great joy. Amen. (Luke 2:10,14)



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CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

- Share about a time when you missed out on something.
- How do you think Mary and Joseph felt when they found out there was no room in the inn (Luke 2:7)?
- Is there room in your life for Jesus? What things sometimes crowd him out? How could your life become more of a “manger” for Jesus?

DEVOTIONS



Use this simple liturgy for lighting the center candle on your Advent wreath:

Leader: **In John 1:14, we read that Jesus is the true light who gives light to every person. Our center Advent candle is our Christ candle. As we light it, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the true light of the world.** (Light all the candles on your Advent wreath.)

All: **Thank you, Lord Jesus, for being born into our world. Light up our hearts and our homes for our Savior. Amen.**

SERVICE



Christmas festivities usually involve a great deal of preparation and cleaning up. Resolve to work together as a home to carry out the necessary chores. If you are guests at another home, do what you can to serve your hosts this Christmas with willing hands.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Before you rush to open your Christmas gifts this year, pause to pray and thank God for the gift of Jesus, and for the gifts of one another:

Leader: **We gather today to celebrate the gift of Jesus to our world and to our home. As God has loved us by giving us Jesus, we share his love with one another by giving and receiving gifts. Let us pray.**

All: **Father in Heaven, as we open these gifts today we give you thanks for the greatest gift of all, your Son Jesus. Fill our home with his love and our hearts with his peace. Amen.**

In giving gifts to one another, use the following words:

(Name), as a sign of God’s gift of Jesus to me, I give you this gift with love.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org