

Holidays Fit For a King
Celebrating the JOY of Christmas with Children
Julie Bauckham and Lynn Barnes

Resource Books

Celebrating A Christ-Centered Christmas: Ideas From A-Z By: Sharon Jaynes

Just 25 Days 'Til Christmas: An Advent Celebration for the Entire Family
By: Rebecca Hayford Bauer

The ADVENTure of Christmas: Finding Jesus in Our Holiday Traditions
By: Lisa Whelchel

52 Simple Ways to Make Christmas Special By: Jan Dargatz

The Twelve Teas of Christmas By: Emilie Barnes

Christ in Christmas, A Family Advent Celebration By: NavPress

Miracle of the Shoe Box By: Franklin Graham
(Especially appropriate if you are participating in Operation Christmas Child)

The Story of Christmas By: Sally Owen (used for child's classroom activity)

The Whole Christmas Catalog By: Woodberry Press

Family Nights for Advent and Christmas By: Terry and Mimi Reilly

Christ in Christmas: A Family Advent Celebration By: Dr. James Dobson,
Charles Swindoll, James Montgomery

Born, Creative Bible-Learning Activities for Children Ages 6-12
By: Tracy Leffingwell Harrast

www.friendscelebratingadvent.blogspot.com

Candy Topiary

www.make-stuff.com/holidays/candy_topiary.html

Books to Read with Your Family

Jotham's Journey or Bartholomew's Passage By: Arnold Ytreeide

Gideon's Gift of the Red Glove Series books By: Karen Kingsbury

Christmas Memories By: Terry Meeuwsen

The Christmas Story Book Published by: Cromwell Press

A Christmas Treasury Published By: Viking Press

Why the Nativity? By: David Jeremiah
(This is a daily reading for 25 days)

The 12 Ways of Christmas By: David Jeremiah
(Short readings to focus on Christmas)

Santa, Are You for Real? By: Harold Myra

A Certain Small Shepherd By: Rebecca Caudill

The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey By: Susan Wojciechowski

The Real 12 Days of Christmas By: Helen Haidle

Some Favorite Movies

- **The Nativity Story**
- **VeggieTales – The Toy that Saved Christmas** or **The Star of Christmas**
- **The Small One**
- **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever**
- **Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas**
- **A Christmas Carol** (with George C. Scott)
- **How the Grinch Stole Christmas** (cartoon version)
- **ELF**
- **White Christmas**
- **Babes in Toyland** (classic version)

Advent Wreath Scripture

The Prophecy Candle (purple): Isaiah 7.14, 9.2-7; Luke 1.30-35

The Bethlehem Candle (purple): Micah 5.2; Luke 2.1-7

The Shepherd's Candle (pink): Isaiah 52.7; Luke 2.8-14, 4.18-19

The Angel's Candle (purple): Ezekiel 34.23; Luke 2.15-20; John 10.11

Christ's Candle (white): Isaiah 9.2-6; Luke 2.30-32; John 1.6-13

Cinnamon Applesauce Ornament Recipe

- ½ cup applesauce
- ½ cup cinnamon
- 1 Tablespoon glue

Mix together and roll out. Use cookie cutters to cut out ornaments. Poke a hole at the top of each ornament before hardens – use a straw. Tie ribbon on top. Wrap the ornament up each year after Christmas to preserve scent.

These remind us to be a pleasing scent to those around us, especially around the holidays. *“For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.” II Corinthians 2.15*

12 Days of Christmas – Christian Meaning

1. The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.
2. *Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.
3. *Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.
4. Four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
5. Five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the New Testament.
6. Six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.
7. Seven Swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit – Mercy, Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, and Leadership.
8. Eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.
9. Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruit of the Holy Spirit – Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.
10. Ten lords a-leaping were the Ten Commandments.
11. Eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.
12. *Twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles’ Creed.

* *More than one description for these 3 numbers.*

Ideas for visiting your child’s school

- Read a storybook.
- Birthday party for Jesus (skit, craft and cake)
- Give a presentation about the symbols of Christmas and how most of them point to Jesus.
- Some ideas to include might be: Star, Lights, Shepherd’s staff, Tree and other Greenery, Holly, Bells, Poinsettia, Wreath, Cards, Angels, Gifts, Carols,

Follow the Star Game Clues

(Tabitha Frost)

1 The Wise Men followed a star at night
To the place they'd find Jesus in sight
Now you follow these clues that lead to a star
Then a treat will be waiting when you travel far.
First, go to the place where we all go to eat
And look for two snowmen standing by a tree

2 The prophets said a Messiah would be born
But many years passed before Jesus would come
Now go to the room where you watch the T.V
And check all the mangers and a star you will see.

3 The angels in the sky did sing
The glorious birth of the new born king
Go up the stairs and find the place where
Seth use to sleep...there's no crib there.

4 The shepherds heard the angels song
And to the manger they hurried along
Now look in the room where you go to get clean
And a shining star will sure to be seen.

5 When the shepherds arrived they looked in the hay
And there fast asleep the baby Jesus lay
Walk to the room where the Frost boys all sleep
And in the highest bed a star you will meet.

6 The gift of God's Son was to be for all men
Our part in the story is to have faith and believe Him
In the room with a stove the last star can be found
On a table nearby where we will all gather around
To sing a song for Jesus is what we will say
Cause today we are celebrating our Savior's Birthday.