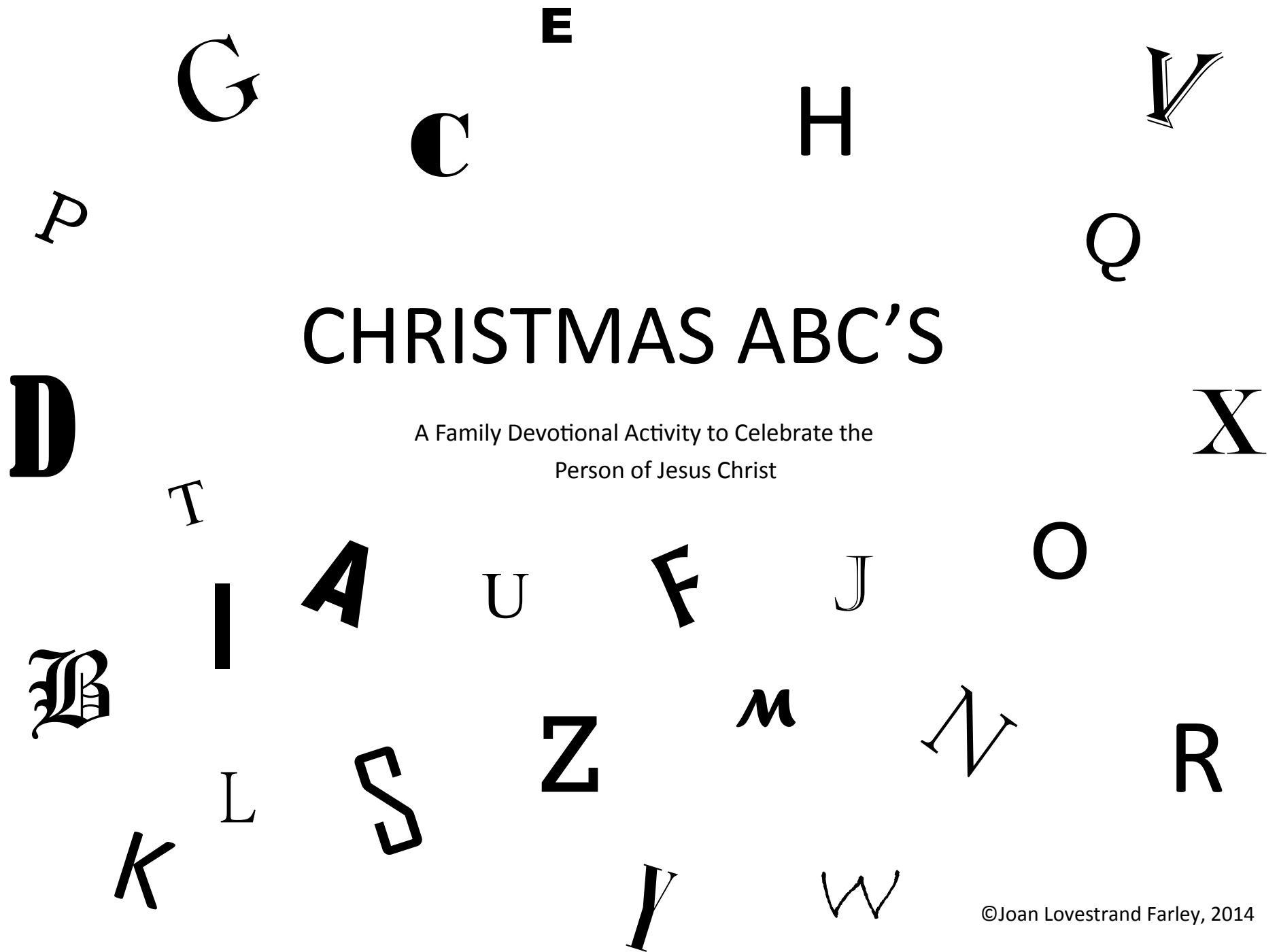


CHRISTMAS ABC'S

A Family Devotional Activity to Celebrate the
Person of Jesus Christ



INSTRUCTIONS

This packet is a series of paper chains that you can use throughout the days leading up to Christmas to celebrate Who Jesus Christ really is. All you need to do is cut them out and then use one each day with your children or in your own quiet time. The alphabet enables your children to remember His various attributes and will serve as a good reminder as you add a link each day to the chain. Each link has one name or attribute for Jesus. On the back of each link is a suggested Bible reading for the day along with possible discussion questions for the passage. As parents, you may want to read ahead each day so that you have thought through some discussion questions that would be appropriate for your family. There is also a suggested activity that goes along with the theme for the day. Some of these you may need to adjust for the age and suitability of your family.

Since there are 26 letters in the alphabet and Christmas falls on December 25, you might want to start a day early or double up on one day. Should you choose to start even earlier or to continue on past Christmas, four additional blank links are provided for you to add to the beginning or the end or to double up on a day when you would like to emphasize one of your favorite names for Jesus. If you like, you can use the chain as a decoration on your tree or you can put it somewhere where it will be obvious how many more letters still need to be filled in before Christmas Day arrives.

In addition to the links, you will also find the words to a few Christmas songs on pages 13-15. If you do not know these songs, use them as poems that you read or put your own music to them. You can also look up the tunes on the internet and sing along with the music file you find there.

May God bless your Christmas celebration of the birth of the King of Kings. May you be awed once again of the incredulous gift of a Savior, and may your Christmas be more about Him and His honor and glory than it is about presents or parties.

Seeking Him together with you,

Joan Farley

Joan Lovestrand Farley, 2014

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AUTHOR

A

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BREAD OF LIFE

B

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CHRIST

C

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DESIRE OF THE NATIONS

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EMMANUEL

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FRIEND

F

AUTHOR

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Read Hebrews 5:9 and 12:2. Discuss why it is important, especially during Christmas, to remember that Jesus is the author of our salvation and faith. Talk about the book of life that God is writing in heaven. Activity: Read a favorite book or story together.

BREAD OF LIFE

Paste here

Read John 6:32-35. Discuss the various references to bread in this passage—from heaven, of God, of life. How is Jesus all of these things? Activity: Make bread together and enjoy it fresh from the oven.

CHRIST means “Messiah” or the One who was promised who would save Israel.

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Read Mark 8:27-29 and John 6:66-69. Discuss what it must have been like for Peter and the disciples to realize that Jesus was the Christ, the One who was promised. Activity: Put “God Always Keeps His Promises” in the center and around list some His promises to us.

DESIRE OF THE NATIONS

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Read Haggai 2:7 and Revelation 7:9-12. Discuss God’s plan to save people from every nation. Activity: Find a world map and choose a country. Do a little research on their customs. Talk about how it will be to have people from that country worshipping, working, and playing with you in heaven.

EMMANUEL means “God with us”.

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Read Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23 and Psalm 139:7-12. Discuss the importance of God being with us. Activity: Play “Hide and Seek” and then talk about how we cannot hide from God because He is always with us.

FRIEND

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Read John 15:9-17. Discuss the importance of having friends, especially having Jesus as a friend and how we grow in our friendship with Jesus. Activity: Since Jesus told us to love others and made it clear that we are His friends when we obey, do something kind for someone else today.

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GOOD SHEPHERD

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Paste here

HOLY ONE

H

Paste here

INFANT

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Paste here

JESUS

J

Paste here

KING OF KINGS

K

Paste here

LORD

L

GOOD SHEPHERD

Paste here

Read John 10:11-18. Discuss the qualities of a good shepherd and how Jesus shows those qualities to us. Activity: Make a sheep. (See activity instructions page.)

HOLY ONE “Holy” means set apart for God. When it refers to God , it means He is totally separate from sin and darkness.

Paste here

Read Mark 1:23-28. Imagine what it would have been like to be there that morning. Talk about why the demons were afraid of Jesus. Discuss also why it would have been so horrible for Jesus to take our sin on the cross. (See II Cor. 5:21) Activity: Do the “Cleansing Object Lesson” on the Activity page.

INFANT

Paste here

Read Luke 2:1-7. Discuss what this experience must have been like for Mary and Joseph. Activity: Prepare a bed for Jesus. (See activity instructions.)

JESUS

Paste here

Read Matthew 1:18-21. “Jesus” means “God is salvation.” Discuss the significance of Jesus’ name being given to him by someone other than his parents. Activity: Make a poster.

KING OF KINGS

Paste here

Read Matthew 2:1-12. Talk about the gifts the wise men brought to Jesus. Then talk about the gifts Jesus gives to us, especially his most important gift of salvation. Then talk of the gifts we give to Jesus. Activity: Give a gift to Jesus. (See activity page.)

LORD

Paste here

Read Philippians 2:5-11. Talk about what heaven must have been like for Jesus. Then discuss the differences between being there and his coming to earth. Emphasize the aspects mentioned in this passage. Activity: Sing Christmas carols together that emphasize Jesus’ leaving heaven to come to earth. One, “Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne” is printed in the song section.

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MAN OF SORROWS

M

Paste here

NAZARENE

N

Paste here

ONLY BEGOTTEN SON

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Paste here

PRINCE

P

Paste here

Judge of Quick and Dead

Q

Paste here

REDEEMER

R

MAN OF SORROWS

Paste here

Read Isaiah 53:1-12. Discuss the sorrows that weighed on Jesus throughout his life and especially in death. Talk about how we can trust Him with our sorrows. Activity: Jesus knew that all the negative things in his life were part of God's plan for him. Write down the sad and hard things you are facing, and take time to thank God that He is still in control.

NAZARENE

Paste here

Read Matthew 2:19-23. Discuss what it would have been like to return to Israel and for Jesus to grow up in the small town of Nazareth. Why do you think it mattered where Jesus lived? Activity: Look up a map of biblical Palestine. How far was it from Egypt to Nazareth. How long would it take them to make this journey? Play the Trip Memory Game.

ONLY BEGOTTEN SON

Paste here

Read John 3:16-18 and I John 4:9-10. Based on these two passages, talk about the differences between those who believe and those who do not. Activity: Make a thank-you card together to thank God for sending His Son. Put it on the tree or with your Christmas decorations.

PRINCE OF PEACE

Paste here

Read Isaiah 9:6, John 14:27. and 16:33 Discuss what it means to have Jesus give us peace. How is it different from the kind of peace that our world talks about? Activity: Make a card for the Prince of Peace and add it to your Christmas decorations.

Judge of the QUICK and the Dead “Quick” is an old-fashioned word for living.

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Read II Timothy 4:1 and Matthew 25:31-46. Talk about Jesus as Judge on that day when He will judge the whole earth. Will it be scary, wonderful, or a little of both? What difference does knowing that Jesus is our judge make in the way we celebrate His birth? Activity: Play Judging Game. (See activity page.)

REDEEMER

Paste here

Read I Peter 1:17-19. and Galatians 4:4-5 Yesterday we talked about Jesus being the Judge. Today's passage in I Peter also talks about Him as Judge. Discuss what difference does our redemption makes in both of our everyday life and in our being judged. Activity: Write a poem. (See activity page for instructions on writing a cinquain poem.)

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SAVIOUR

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TRUTH

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UNWANTED

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VICTOR

V

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WORD

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EXALTED ONE

X

SAVIOUR

Paste here

Read Luke 2:8-11 and Matthew 1:21. Discuss what it means to be saved from sin, both past and present. What difference does it make to our lives here on earth to have a Saviour? Activity: Rescue Mission Activity . See activity page.

TRUTH

Paste here

Read John 1:17; 8:32, and 14:6. What is the opposite of truth? What are some lies that our world tells us? Talk about the lies you tend to believe. How do we fight those lies? Activity: Christmas Acronym. Use TRUTH for the letter “T” in Christmas. Think of other words to use that describe Jesus and the reason we celebrate Christmas.

Unwanted

Paste here

Read John 1:10-14 and Isaiah 53:2-3. Discuss what it is like to be unwanted. Then talk about what it would be like for the Savior of the World and the King of the Universe to be unwanted by the very people He had created and wanted to help. Activity: Hide and Seek. (See activity page.)

VICTOR

Paste here

Read Revelation 19:11-16. The King described here is amazing, powerful, and scary. Find the various characteristics mentioned. Talk about what it would be like to be on his side in the battle or on the opposing side. Activity: Gold Medal (See activity page.)

WORD

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Read John 1:1-3 and 14. Discuss why Jesus calls himself the “Word” of God. What difference does this make to us? How has He been the Word in your life in the past week? Activity: Silent Communication. (Activity Sheet.)

EXPRESS IMAGE OF GOD

Paste here

Today, start with a mirror. Stand in front of it and talk about how the mirror correctly shows who we are. Ask, “How is a mirror helpful to us?” Then read Hebrews 1:1-4. and John 14:9 Jesus is the exact representation of God. How is Jesus exactly like God? Get out the mirror again. With washable marker, write on the mirror some of the things Jesus mirrored about God.

Paste here

YAHWEH

Y

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ZION

Z

Paste here

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YAHWEH (See activity page for more explanation on this name.)

Paste here

Read John 8:52-59. Talk about what Jesus was saying to the Jews in answer to their question. What was so amazing about what Jesus told them? Why did they want to kill him? Why does this matter to us? Activity: Angel Choir.

ZION

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Read Isaiah 28:16 and I Peter 2:6-8 Jesus is the stone in Zion. What is the difference between making a stone a cornerstone or a stumbling block? Is Jesus your cornerstone or your stumbling block? Is He in his rightful place in all areas of your life? Activity: Paint a Rock.

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Carols and Hymns in the Public Domain

As with Gladness Men of Old

As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright,
So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped To that lowly manger bed,
There to bend the knee before Him Whom heav'n and earth adore.
So may we with willing feet Ever seek the mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare At that manger rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus, everyday Keep us in the narrow way:
And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

(Sung to "For the Beauty of the Earth")

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, Born a Child, and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Thou Did Leave Thy Throne

Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown
When thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
For Thy holy nativity.

Chorus for verses 1-4:

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for Thee!

Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang,
Proclaiming Thy royal degree;
But of lowly birth didst Thou come to earth,
And in great humility.

The foxes found rest, and the birds their nest
In the shade of the forest tree;
But Thy couch was the sod, O Thou Lamb of God,
In the deserts of Galilee.

Thou camest, O Lord, with the living word
That should set Thy people free;
But with mocking scorn and with crown of thorn
Thy bore thee to Calvary.

When the heavens shall ring and the angels sing
At Thy coming to victory,
Let Thy voice call me home saying, "Yet there is room—
There is room at My side for thee."
My heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus,
When Thou comest and callest for me.

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Good Christian men, rejoice With heart and soul and voice;

Give ye heed to what we say:

News! News! Jesus Christ is born today.

Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now:

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

Now ye hear of endless bliss:

Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!

He has opened heaven's door, and man is blessed forever-
more:

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

Now ye need not fear the grave:

Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall:

Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,

The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head;

The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,

The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay

Close by me forever and love me, I pray.

Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,

And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling
stand.

Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descended, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of Lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord most high."

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Gentle Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger;

There he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger:

Such a Babe in such a place. Can he be the Savior?

Ask the saved of every race who have found his favor.

Angels sang about his birth. Wise men sought and found him.

Heaven's star shone brightly forth, glory all around him.

Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing.

All the plains were lit that night. All the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger.

He is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger.

Son of God, of humble birth, beautiful the story.

Praise his name in all the earth. Hail the King of Glory.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumphs of the skies:
With th' angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The heard angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail th' incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark, the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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

Chorus:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

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

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things, far and night;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And cause us in her ways to go.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind:
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease.
Fill all the world with heavenly peace.

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Of the Father's love begotten, Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And the future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heav'n adore Him: Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him,
And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent, Every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore.

Christ, to Thee with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving And unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory and dominion, And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore.

ACTIVITIES INSTRUCTIONS

Day G: Make a Sheep

Make an outline of your child's hand on brown construction paper. Point the four fingers to the bottom and the thumb off to the side so that the fingers form the legs of the sheep and the thumb becomes the head. Add facial details to the head with a marker. Paste cotton balls with glue onto the body of the sheep.

Day H: Cleansing object lesson. (It is always wise to practice object lessons before presenting them to someone else.)

Pour about two cups of water into a clear glass quart sized container. A glass loaf pan can work as well. In a separate container pour one cup of bleach. Point to the water-filled container and say, "This represents our lives. One by one, we let sin enter into our lives." (Feel free to use different colors as you talk about this part.) "Maybe we tell a lie." Let one drop of food coloring fall. "Maybe we steal a cookie." Another drop. "Maybe we say something mean to someone else." Another drop. Do this until the water becomes obviously colored, about six times. "Now it is clear to us and everyone who knows us well that we are really sinners." Talk to them about Jesus' plan for salvation. Present the gospel clearly and tell them that when we ask Jesus to save us, He takes away our sin. Then pour the bleach into the water.

Day I: Prepare a bed for the baby.

To prepare for this activity, find an empty shoe box and gather a bag of cotton balls. (You could use pieces of straw or strips of cloth if they are easier for you to find.) Explain to the children that we want our hearts and home to be a place where Jesus would enjoy spending His time with us. He said that when we do nice things for other people, it's like doing them for Him. Tell them that this shoe box represents a bed for the baby Jesus. The cotton balls (or strips of cloth) represent the nice, secret things we do for each other. The only person we want to know about the nice things we do is Jesus. Then, every time we do something nice in secret for someone else, we can go to the stack of cotton balls and put one in the shoe box. By the time Christmas night arrives, we hope to have a very nice, soft bed for the baby. (Parents, remember to place a doll, wrapped in white clothes, in the shoe box on Christmas eve.)

Day J:

Put "His Name Shall be Called Jesus" in the middle. All around it, write other names by which Jesus is known. Decorate with stickers and glitter, if desired.

Day K: Give a Gift to Jesus

If you stop to think of it, you realize that we really have nothing of value to give to Jesus. All of our good deeds are as “filthy rags” (Isa. 64:6). Still, Jesus does ask us to show Him our love, primarily by our obedience (John 14:15). Obedience is a way of showing that we trust and believe Him. So trusting Him is also a gift He desires from us. At birthdays, we normally gift the birthday person a gift as a way of honoring that person. We say that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus’ birth, so it is appropriate to think of a special gift you can give at this time. Ask “What gift will we give Jesus on his birthday this year?” Some people choose to give a gift of time—visiting the sick or shut-ins, those in prison, or helping the elderly with jobs they can no longer do. Some people choose a substantial gift of money—sending it to a missionary or mission agency that is sharing Jesus’ gift of salvation with others. Some choose a gift of obedience—giving to Jesus something that He has been asking them to do but they have not yet done it. Talk with your family about a gift that you can give—either individually or as a family together. Then, write down your gift on a piece of paper and wrap it up in a pretty box. On Christmas morning, before gifts are exchanged, take the time to read the story of Christ’s birth from the Bible, sing a carol to Him, and then open the gift and read the card(s) inside. Then pray together and thank Him for the amazing gift of salvation.

Day N: Trip Memory Game

“I am going on a trip and I am going to take . . .” and then fills in the rest of the sentence. The first person lists one item. The second person says the same thing, repeats the first item and adds their own. You may want to determine ahead of time how many things will be listed so that there is an end in sight. When someone misses, they can either drop out and the game continues, or they can go to the end of the line and the game begins again. To make it easier, you may want to follow the alphabet.

Day Q: Judging Game

Go to a paint store and pick up 2 copies of several different paint cards. If they have several shades on one card, cut them apart. You will likely want at least ten matched colors (or 20 colors in all). The more cards you have the harder the game will be. The job is to match them. If you have chosen cards that are close in color, the player s will have to judge carefully whether or not they are really the same color. Explain to your children that Jesus’ ability to judge is much better than judging between colors. He is able to see every tiny thing in our lives. He knows what real purity is. Explain that it is like being able to judge between shades of the same color. Jesus would know if even the smallest drop of black

Day R: Write a Poem

Using the songs in the Song section or choosing other carols from a hymn book, read the songs as poetry. After you have read several of them, write a poem together and post it in a prominent place. One poem you could make together is called a Cinquain. It is five lines long. Each line either has a certain number of words, (1, 2, 3, 4, and then one 1 again). The first line is your title. The second line is descriptive. The third line has action words. The fourth line expresses feeling or is a complete sentence (but not usually more than eight syllables in length), and the last line ties it back to the first line again. Here is an example:

Christmas
Best season
Singing, baking, giving
Celebrate Jesus' coming here.
Emmanuel!

Day S: Rescue Mission

For young children: Let your young children choose to become a superhero. Make a paper cape for each one from a paper bag. Put their dolls or stuffed animals in difficult situations throughout the house. Perch one in a high spot and trap another underneath something 'heavy.' Send the children on a rescue mission to save their toys. After they have completed their "mission," discuss Jesus' rescue mission to come and save us from our sins. How dangerous was it? How impossible would it have been for anyone else to do it?

For older children: If you have a Rescue Mission nearby, call and ask about having your family go in to serve a meal or help in some other way. Find out if anyone would be willing to share their story with you. On your way home, talk about why people end up in the mission and what the role of the mission is to "save" them. Talk about the difference between the role of the people who work there and the role of Jesus in his work in coming to earth.

Day U: Hide and Seek

Play Hide and Seek normally. Then after a few rounds, change the rules this way. Tell all those who are hiding (but not the Seeker) that when they are found, they are to pretend that the Seeker can't really see them and hasn't found them. They should stay in their hiding places until a parent calls everyone out. After this round, gather everyone together and talk about what it was like for Jesus, who came to seek and save the lost, to be told by people that they didn't want Him to find them.

Day V: Make a Medal

Olympians win medals. Since we know that all those who are on Jesus' side will be winners in the end because of Jesus, we will make medals today. Get a metal lid from a glass jar. Spray paint it gold. Then decorate it accordingly. Perhaps you would want to write "Jesus' team" or "Jesus wins" on it. Tape a ribbon onto the back. Then wear it or hang it in a prominent place as a reminder that we need to be on the side of the Victor.

Day W: Silent Communication Game

Ahead of time, write out a series of sentences. Try to make each sentence about the same length as the others. Put the sentences in a basket. Divide your family into two teams. Let one person draw a sentence from the basket and then try to get his team to guess what he is trying to say. Set a time limit of one or two minutes. If the team figures out the sentence before the time is up, they may try a second sentence. Points are given for every exact word that is given in the right order. In other words, if one of the words in the sentence is "gift," "present" does not count. After the game is over, talk about how difficult it is to make others understand without using words. Then talk about how important it is that Jesus is the Word of God. How are we able to understand God through Jesus in ways that people before Jesus simply could not understand? Make a list of all the things you think we understand better than the people in the Old Testament did.

Day Y:

Explanation of "Yahweh": *Yahweh* is Hebrew for "I am." This name was considered so special to the Jews that when they came across it in the text, they would not pronounce it but would use "Adonai" (Lord) in place of reading that name. In the KJV, it is sometimes translated "Jehovah" or "Jah." It is also sometimes translated as "LORD" in all capital letters. This name means that God is eternal, unchanging and self-existing. One place where this name is defined is when God says to Moses, "I Am that I Am."

Activity: Angel Choir. By now you have decorations about the house. Gather the angels and arrange them as the choir of those who proclaimed the birth of the "I AM" to the lowly shepherds. Or if you have little girls who enjoy dressing up, let them be the angel choir. Imagine together what it must have been like for both the angels and the shepherds that night. The angels were singing about Someone who had heard their praises for centuries. The shepherds were hearing about this for the first time. Sing some carols together about the angels singing.

Day Z: Paint a rock.

Go outside and find a small rock. Bring it in and wash it. When it is dry, paint it. It is easiest to paint it all one color, but multiple colors can be used if desired. When the rock is dry, write one or more of the names of Jesus that has been special to you during this Christmas. Put the rock in a place where it will remind you that Jesus needs to be your cornerstone.

About the author:

As a single woman, Joan ministered to children in Mexico, Guatemala and the Philippines before returning to the U.S. and working as a children's director for a church in Minnesota. She also spent two years teaching in a Bible college in Canada. After she met her husband, they moved to Maine where her husband, Charles G. Farley, became the pastor of the West Hampden Baptist Church in Hampden, Maine, for eleven years.

For the past three years, Charlie and Joan have been working with International Partnership Ministries. IPM's primary mission is to support national missionaries and church planters. The Farley's ministry is to provide leadership training whenever and wherever needed in various parts of the world. As part of that leadership training, Joan writes materials which they can use. If you would like to know more about International Partnership Ministries and their work, please visit their website: www.impworld.org.

It costs money to get these materials into the hands of IPM's missionaries. If you would like to help Charlie and Joan, you may send your donation to:

International Partnership Ministries, Inc.
PO Box 337
Hanover, PA, 17331

Please indicate on your gift that this is for the Farley's Children's Ministry fund. Your gifts will be well used to evangelize and disciple children and to train children's workers throughout the world.