

Deck the Halls: Countdown to Christmas



First, watch
this week's
video!

Christmas:
Celebrating
Jesus, God's
greatest gift

Memory Verse

"A child will be
born to us. A son
will be given to us."
Isaiah 9:6, NIV

Bible Story

Wise Men
Matthew 2:1-12

Bottom Line

Celebrate Jesus
all year long.

Use this guide to help your family
learn why we celebrate Christmas.

Activity

Celebrate Jesus All Year Long

What You Need:

2024 calendar (you can use one that you have on hand, or print one from the internet)

What You Do:

Invite your child to do an activity.

Ask your child to flip to the December page on the calendar and point to Christmas Day.

Say, "At Christmas, we celebrate Jesus' birth. We celebrate Jesus because He is our Savior who came to bring us hope, peace, joy, and love."

Ask your child to flip to the March page on the calendar and point to Easter Sunday.

Say, "At Easter, we celebrate how Jesus died on the cross for our sins, then came back to life. Because of what Jesus did for us, we can have a relationship with God—now and forever!"

Then ask your child to flip through the pages and look all the blank days on the calendar. Say, "It's good to celebrate Jesus on special days like Christmas and Easter. But we don't have to wait for a holiday to celebrate Jesus. We can celebrate Him all year long!"

Talk About the Bible Story

How did the wise men know where to find Jesus?
(They followed the star.)

How did the wise men celebrate Jesus? (They brought gifts to honor Him as king.)

What are some ways that we can celebrate Jesus—not just at Christmas, but throughout the year? (Spend some time talking about this. Some ideas: read about Him in the Bible, pray and talk to Him, go to church, sing worship songs to Him, talk about Him with other people, live our lives the way He taught us to live.)

As we take down our Christmas decorations, let's think about keeping one thing out to remind us to celebrate Jesus all year long. What decoration would you choose?



Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"God, we love You. As we look ahead to the new year, help us take time to celebrate Jesus. Remind us to spend time reading the Bible, praying, and talking about Jesus with other people. Help us to live each day the way Jesus taught us to live. We know that Jesus brought hope, peace, joy, and love to the world—and that's something we should celebrate all the time! Thank You for sending Jesus to rescue us. Amen."