

Christmas is celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.

DAY 1

Read Isaiah 7:14

Isaiah was a prophet, a person who spoke for God. He helped people know about God and how God wanted them to live. Isaiah spoke these words so that people would know that one day, God's only Son would be born. God wanted His people to know that a Messiah, a Savior was coming!

God had a plan from the very beginning. It was a plan to rescue us. God is perfect and holy. Our sin, the wrong things we do, breaks our relationship with God. But because God loves us, he made a way to fix that broken relationship! When we trust in Jesus because of what He did for us on the cross, we can have a relationship with God forever. Isn't that amazing?

God with Us Ornament

The name Immanuel means "God with us."

1. Grab a piece of heavy paper and write the word, "Immanuel," in a cool font. You can decorate it any way you choose.
2. Flip the paper over and write "God with us."
3. Cut around the words to create a cool shape.
4. Punch a hole in the top and run some yarn through the hole to create an ornament to add to your Christmas tree!

DAY 2

Read Micah 5:2

About the same time Isaiah was telling people about God sending His son, God gave another prophet named Micah a special message. Micah told the people that a very special birth would take place in the town of Bethlehem. These messages from Isaiah and Micah helped the people know that one day, Jesus, God's only son, would be born.

The people waited and waited for a very long time for this promised Savior. God had a plan all along! And guess what? At just the right time, Micah's words given to him by God came true. Jesus was born in Bethlehem! We can celebrate Christmas because God has a plan!

Make a prophet puppet!

1. Grab a paper bag.
2. Draw a face on the bottom.
3. Draw a mouth on the folded edge.
4. Place your hand inside the puppet and move his "mouth" to share Micah's special message saying, "God's Son will be born in Bethlehem."

DAY 3

Read Matthew 1:20-23

Do you like surprises? Have you ever been surprised by something or someone? Was it a good surprise or a not so good one?

When Joseph found out that Mary was going to have a baby, he was overwhelmed. After all, they weren't even married yet. The angel Gabriel appeared to Joseph in a dream to tell him that this baby was very special. The baby Mary was carrying was Jesus, the one that the prophets Isaiah and Micah had spoken about so long ago. Jesus would be born because of the promise God made. God's plan was moving fast and Mary and Joseph had been chosen to play such a significant part! Talk about a big amazing surprise!

Joseph's dream helped him understand a little bit more about God's plan and his part in fulfilling it. Can you imagine the conversations he and Mary must have had about this little baby and their future? Soon, Mary and Joseph were married and anxiously awaited the birth of this very special baby! God had a totally amazing plan for sure!

DAY 4

Read Luke 1:30-33

When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, she was terrified. After all, no one expects an angel to suddenly show up unannounced! And his message was even more confusing. Mary wasn't even married and now she's being told she's going to have a baby? What would Joseph say? What would her parents say? What would the people in her community say?

Remember, God had promised to send His Son. Years had passed as God's people waited and waited. And now, Gabriel is here to say, "Guess what, Mary? That promise is about to come true. God is with you and He has chosen you!"

That's why Christmas is such a big deal. We celebrate because God has a plan.

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Fill in the blanks below with the missing vowels. As you finish, take some time to thank God for keeping His promise to send His Son Jesus, just as He planned.

C ..... l ..... br ..... t ..... b ..... c ..... s...  
G ..... d h ..... s ..... pl ..... n.

**Celebrate because  
God has a plan.**