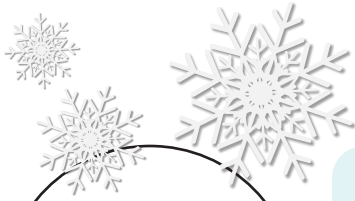


Simply Christmas: No Assembly Required



First, watch
this week's
video!

Christmas:
Celebrating
Jesus, God's
greatest gift

Memory Verse

Today in the town
of David a Savior
has been born
to you. He is the
Messiah, the Lord.
Luke 2:11, NIV

Bible Story

Jesus Is Promised
Isaiah 9:6

Key Question

What are you
hoping for?

Use this guide to help your family celebrate
Christmas all month long.

Activity

Phrase Fun

WHAT YOU NEED:

Note cards or strips of paper, pencil
or pen

WHAT YOU DO:

Write each of the following words on
a note card or strip of paper:

- Wonderful
- Counselor
- Mighty
- God
- Everlasting
- Father
- Prince
- Of
- Peace

Mix up the cards/strips of paper so
they're not in any particular order.
Read the week's verse (below) aloud,
one time. Based on just one reading of
the verse, challenge your child to use
the cards to create four phrases that
describe God's promised Savior.

"For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his
shoulders.

And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."
Isaiah 9:6, NIV

Give your child a few moments to
arrange the cards in order. If they can't
quite complete the verse, you may
have to read it one or two more times.

Talk About the Bible Story

What's your favorite thing to do during the Christmas
season?

What brings you joy and fun at Christmastime?

What are you hoping for right now? (*Not just in terms
of what are you hoping to receive for Christmas . . . but
what is something you're hoping will happen, or how do
you hope Christmas will turn out this year?*)

Why is hope important?

How can we stay hopeful this time of year, especially
with everything going on in our world right now?

*Parent: Share a story about a time when you really
hoped for something.*

Prayer

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

"God, thank You for the gift of Your Son, Jesus. Thank
You for keeping Your promise to send a Savior. Because
of Jesus, we can hope—when things are good, and also
when we feel scared or nervous. Thank You for the hope
we have in Him. We love You. Amen!"

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.

WHAT ARE YOU HOPING FOR?

Journaling lines for the question 'WHAT ARE YOU HOPING FOR?'



Day 1

Go to Studio252.tv and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show.

Click on Fun2Watch! then The So & So Show.

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked:

2. You learned:

3. You'd like to know:

Day 2

Read Isaiah 9:6

As you read Isaiah 9:6, underline every word that is referring to Jesus (some are titles; some are simple pronouns). Then circle the description of Jesus that gives you the most hope.

How amazing is it that the prophet Isaiah foretold Jesus' birth about 700 YEARS before He was born? Isaiah and other prophets even foretold incredible details of Jesus' birth that unfolded exactly as they said they would. Most importantly, Jesus brought the peace and hope that the prophets said He would!

Day 3

There are many different ways we can pray to God, including using His words, and the words He inspired in others.

Today, use the words of Isaiah 9:6 to pray a prayer of thankfulness to God for keeping His promise.

Dear God, thank You for sending a child to be born to us . . . for giving Your only Son to us. We are thankful He leads us! He is our Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He is also our Father Who Lives Forever, and the Prince Who Brings Peace. We can have hope because You kept your promise to send Jesus! In His Name, I pray, amen.

P.S. Did you realize you were just a part of fulfilled prophecy? Isaiah said, 'He will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace.' That's what you just did!



Day 4

Grab a cup of hot chocolate and a friend or parent and take a break from the craziness that the holiday season often brings.

As you enjoy your treat, share with each other what you're hoping for in the coming weeks and months. It could be something silly or fun, or it could be something serious and important.

Then read the words of Isaiah 9:6 together, and share with each other how it makes you feel to know that God keeps His promises. Before you jump back into the busyness of the day, say a quick prayer of thankfulness to God for keeping His promises. **We can have hope because God keeps His promise.**



Day 5

Does your family have a tradition of sending Christmas cards to others?

One of the best parts of sending Christmas greetings is the chance to remind others of the hope of this season.

If your family sends cards, ask if you can somehow include the words of Isaiah 9:6 in your card this year. If they don't, or if they've already sent the cards, then send a few Christmas greetings to your friends by text, email, or mail. You can send a photo, a Christmas joke, or just write Merry Christmas in fun fonts. But before signing off, share the words of Isaiah 9:6, and share with your friends what this promise fulfilled means to you.

It could be something like, "Merry Christmas! I hope you're having a great holiday season! I am feeling full of hope because Christmas means that God keeps His promises. In Isaiah 9:6, God promised, through the prophet Isaiah, that He would send a Savior, and He did! Merry Christmas!"

Make your own messages personal and in your own words. After you've sent them, you can smile knowing you've spread the message of hope that Jesus, God's greatest gift, brings!