

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

WHAT MAKES YOUR CHRISTMAS JOYFUL?

Series of horizontal dotted lines for writing.



Day 1

After watching, write one thing that:

Watch this week's episode of The So & So Show by going to: <https://bit.ly/PreteenSundaysatHome>

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

1. You liked:

2. You learned:

3. You'd like to know:

Day 2

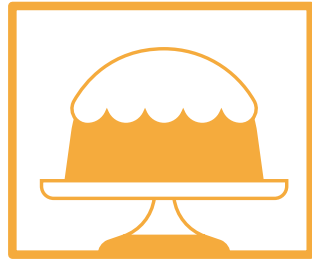
Read Luke 2:1-7

Read Luke 2:1-7 out loud, keeping your hands by your side. Some of those names and places may have been tricky. This is likely a familiar story to you, but sometimes you notice new things when you read something out loud. Did anything new jump out to you? If so, write it here:

Now, read it out loud with your hands by your side but with lots of drama—like you’re performing in a play. Is there anything new you noticed this time?

Lastly, read it out loud using hand motions and all the drama. What did you notice this time around?

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The Christmas story has been called the greatest story of all time—when God sent Jesus to be our Savior!



## Day 3

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### Does your family have a Christmas tree up?

Or maybe a nativity set or even just an Advent calendar or Christmas lights? If not, ask your grown-up if you can light a candle or decorate something together.

Have a seat by the Christmas decoration of your choosing and talk to God for a few minutes. You can leave your eyes open so you can enjoy the lights or decorations. Thank God for sending Jesus and for the joy this truth gives you.

**You can have joy because God sent Jesus.**

Think of all the other gifts God has given you and continue thanking God for those gifts.

## Day 4

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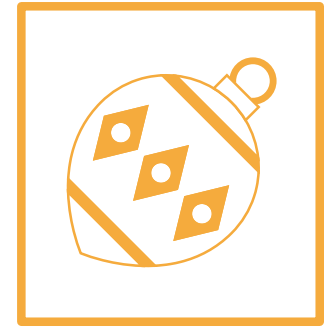
### So often adults go out of their way to make Christmas exciting and fun for kids.

But today, it’s your chance to talk to your grown-up and ask them this question:

**What makes your Christmas joyful?**

After they answer you, dig a little deeper. Find out about their best Christmas ever. Ask them what their favorite part of Christmas is. As you learn more and more about what makes their Christmas joyful, make a plan to make THIS Christmas their best one yet. That might look like not arguing with your brother or sister, or offering to help in the kitchen, or letting your grown-up sleep in a bit on Christmas Day. Or maybe you can recruit your siblings to recreate the Christmas Story.

No matter what you choose to do, remind yourself and your grown-up that you can have joy because God sent Jesus.



## Day 5

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### You can have joy because God sent Jesus.

As Christmas Day draws closer, it can be easy to get caught up in all the parties and gifts and cookies. . . and all of those are a ton of fun! But the real joy we can experience this time of the year is because God sent Jesus!

On the other hand, sometimes Christmas is a painful time for people. Maybe your extended family comes to visit and you have to give up your bed. Maybe someone passed away this year and this will be the first Christmas without them. But in the midst of it all, you can choose joy because God sent Jesus — for you, and for everyone!

Whether the next few days are happy or hard, keep this truth in your mind: **You can have joy because God sent Jesus.**