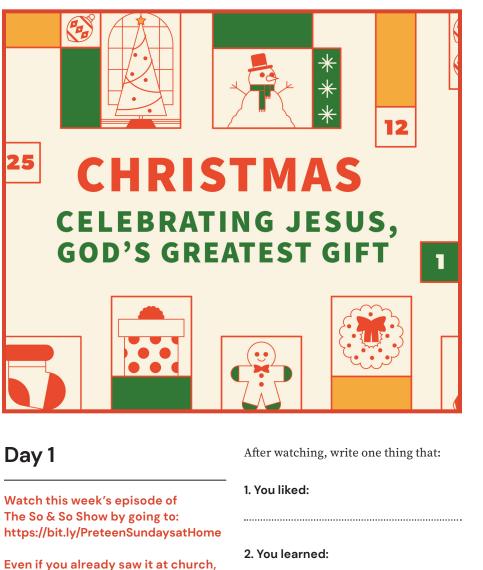
## Journal

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

* * *	WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS THIS CHRISTMAS?	
	CHRISTMAS?	
		•••••

December	
2023	



feel free to check it out again!

FOR AN everyday faith.

3. You'd like to know:

# Day 2

### Read Luke 1:26-56

Read through Luke 1:26-56. On a separate sheet of paper, draw emojis that represent the emotions you think that Mary was likely feeling as she learned about the plan God had for her.

Notice how Mary's emotions change as she learns more and more of God's plan from the angel. And then when her cousin confirms God's plan to make Mary the mother of the Son of God, her peace overflows into a song!

### Day 3

# You can have peace because God has a plan.

Christmas is an exciting time, but it can also be hard, especially knowing there's a new year around the corner with lots of expectations. But **you can have peace because God has a plan**, including for you! In fact, God tells us this through the apostle Paul who wrote this in the first half of Romans 8:28: *"We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him."* (NIrV)

Read the prayer below that is based on Romans 8:28.



**Dear God**, I know that in all things, You work for my good because I love You. Even though I don't know what 2024 and beyond will bring, I know I can have peace because You have a plan for me. Please help me to look to the future with excitement, joy, and peace, knowing that You have a plan for me that is better than anything I could imagine. In Jesus' Name, I pray. **Amen**.

## Day 4

Ask a parent if you can buy some miniature candy canes or other small Christmas treat.

Then take the candy to school (if allowed), or sports practice, or another group you're a part of, and hand out the candy. As you do, ask each person, **"What are your plans this Christmas?"** As you talk with your friends, remind them of the truth that **you can have peace because God has a plan –** for you and for them too!



### Day 5

#### Get a blank sheet of paper and a pencil and draw the word PEACE in bubble letters.

Then use scissors to cut out the letters. Use markers or colored pencils to write on the letters (bonus if you have green and red markers or colored pencils!). Write down some of the things that may worry you about your future. As God reveals more and more of the plans for your life, add those to the letters too. Tape the letters to your bathroom mirror or bedroom door and keep adding to them as you discover more and more about the plan that God has for you!