

## **life group study guide**

### **O, COME LET US ADORE HIM!**

**December 23, 2012**



O Come Let Us Adore Him (Luke 2:1-7)

#### **Introduction**

In the midst of the Christmas season we are looking at the familiar Christmas story from Luke 2 and a familiar Christmas hymn.

What are some of your favorite Christmas traditions?

- In your family as a child?
- In your household today?

What is your favorite Christmas song (spiritual or secular)?

#### **Bible study**

*O Come All Ye Faithful* is one of my favorite Christmas songs. We will use the lyrics to examine ourselves in light of the Christmas story.

#### **Verse 1**

**O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him  
Born the King of Angels:**

We are called to be:

- Faithful – in giving, prayer, good works, Bible study
- Joyful – in spite of circumstances, as a fruit of the Spirit
- Triumphant – we are to be more than conquerors (Rom 8:37-38); we serve a God who is a victorious warrior (Zeph 3:17)

Which of those three words best describe you in your faith today?

Which of these three descriptions do you most need to allow the Holy Spirit to strengthen you?

How can these attributes lead to greater worship?

This song verse points us to the One we worship, Jesus Christ:

- Born in Bethlehem as a child, the Son of God made man

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- Someone we can “behold”. He walked the earth, was tempted as we are and yet lived a sinless life; he left witnesses and a written record of His words and deeds.
- A King – over all that is seen and unseen (angels)

What part of the Christmas story draws you into worship and adoration of Jesus?

Chorus:

**O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.**

The chorus emphasizes Jesus as Lord

- Why do we resist the idea of a “lord” in our lives?
- This resistance has been true since the Garden of Eden. Do you think it is part of our human nature?
- The Old and New Testament declare that “obedience is better than sacrifice” (1 Sam 15:22 and Matt 9:13). What does this mean to you and how do we apply it today in light of honoring Christ as Lord?

Verse 2

**God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created:**

Light is used many times in the Bible to describe God and the life He brings:

- Isaiah prophesied about Jesus using “light.” (Is 9:2, Matt 4:16)
- John’s gospel describes Jesus as “Light” and “Life” in John’s account of the Christmas story (John 1:4-9)
  - Why do you think ‘light’ is used as a metaphor for Jesus?
  - What are the characteristics of light that make this a proper descriptor for Christ?
- Matt 5:14-16 describes Jesus’ disciples as “the light of the world.”
  - What do these verses indicate we are to do to be the light of the world?

Verse 3

**Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!  
Glory to God  
In the highest:**

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What does it mean to be a citizen of a country?

The “faith chapter” of the Bible, Hebrews 11, in verses 13-16, mentions that those who lived by faith saw themselves as strangers and exiles on the earth. They were seeking a heavenly country/city of which they saw themselves as citizens. How can this perspective alter our thoughts and actions today?

How can we display our heavenly citizenship while living life here and now?

### Verse 4

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given!  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing!**

In this verse, Jesus is described as the “Word”, just as in John 1:1-3.

- What is significant about Jesus being described as the “Word of the Father”?
- What do we learn about Jesus in John 1:1-3?
  - Do these attributes of Christ (Creator, eternal, Deity), when seen in stark contrast to the details of the Christmas story in Luke 2:1-7 (born to a simple couple who were travelling away from home because of a government decree, in a busy city, and in an inconvenient circumstances), bring you a greater appreciation for the wonder of and mystery of God? If so, in what way?
  - When reading Luke 2:1-7, the best way to see this as a “happy morning” is to understand the spiritual significance. How can we bring honor to God by looking beyond our physical circumstances and inconveniences and see the “happy mornings” of our life in Christ?

### **Application**

Choose a specific life change you will focus on to bring greater glory and adoration of Christ—both during Christmas and in 2013. Pray for God’s help in that decision.

Then, if you are studying this lesson in a group setting, close by singing the hymn, *O Come All Ye Faithful*, as an act of worship.