

Our Family Memories of Christmas

Reflections

When and where were you born?

What was it like when you were a kid?

How was it different from the way things are now?

What do you remember about Santa Claus? Did you visit Santa at a department store, or did he come to your school or church?

DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?

Children:

Said the night wind to the little lamb, do you see what I see

Way up in the sky, little lamb, do you see what I see

A star, a star, dancing in the night

With a tail as big as a kite With a tail as big as a kite

Congregation:

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy,

do you hear what I hear

Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy,

do you hear what I hear

A song, a song, high above the trees

With a voice as big as the sea

With a voice as big as the sea

Reflection

Tell me about the music at Christmas. Did you go caroling?
Were there special shows or programs when you were a child?

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Children:

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,

And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Children:

Hark! the herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! the herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn King!"

Congregation:

Hail! the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail! the Son of Righteousness!

Light and life to all He brings,

risen with healing in His wings.

Mild He leaves His throne on high,

born that man no more may die;

Born to raise the sons of earth,

born to give them second birth

Hark! the herald angels sing,

"Glory to the newborn King"

Reflection

What do you remember about the special foods at Christmas?

Did your family bake cookies or make candy?

Were there treats at school or church?

O CHRISTMAS TREE

Children:

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, Thy leaves are so unchanging.

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, Thy leaves are so unchanging.

Not only green when summer's here But also when 'tis cold and drear.

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, Thy leaves are so unchanging.

Reflection

Did you put up a lot of decorations at Christmas?

Who was in charge of decorating in your family?

Story of the Annunciation

Reflection

How was the story of Christmas shared in your family?

Luke 2

The Christmas Story

LITTLE DRUMMER BOY

Children:

Come they told me, pa rum pum pum pum
A new born King to see, pa rum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring, pa rum pum pum pum
To lay before the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

So to honor Him, pa rum pum pum pum,
When we come.

Little Baby, pa rum pum pum pum
I am a poor boy too, pa rum pum pum pum
I have no gift to bring, pa rum pum pum pum
That's fit to give the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

Shall I play for you, pa rum pum pum pum,
On my drum?

Reflection

What was it like for you on Christmas Eve?

Did you have trouble sleeping?

What did your family do on Christmas morning?

Did your family have any special traditions?

AWAY IN A MANGER

Children:

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the sky, looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor Baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Congregation:

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray!
Bless all the dear children, in Thy tender care,
And take us to Heaven to live with Thee there.**

Reflections

When you were growing up, were any Christmases particularly memorable because of what was going on at the time? (New brothers or sisters? Traveling? Unexpected changes in the family? Historical events?)

How did your family share Christmas with others?
Did you send cards? Visit relatives?
Have Christmas dinner with lots of aunts, uncles and cousins?

Lighting of Candles

SILENT NIGHT

**Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das heilige Elternpaar.
Das im stalle zu Bethlehem war,
Bei demhimmlischen Kind
Bei demhimmlischen Kind.**

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, All is bright
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

Thank you to all of those who shared their precious family Christmas memories with us. It is our wish for you, that in hearing these memories it may bring some of your own to mind and that you will share them with those around you. In order to be able to share more memories, we have omitted the offering for this evening. Tithes and offerings may be left in the collection plate by the door.

All glory be to God; the Father, Son and Holy Spirit! Amen.