



# Christmas Carols

4-Week Christmas Lessons

# Introduction

Christmas Carols is a 4-week lesson on Christmas for elementary students. Each week introduces a traditional Christmas carol and uses it to teach the story of Christ's birth.

You will be teaching the songs to the children so it is important that you know it. There are many versions of the songs online which you can consult, but their melodies pretty much stay the same. You can sing a cappella (voices only) or with music accompaniment. If you choose to have music, make sure you have it ready to play (on a CD, phone, computer, etc.).

In these lessons, you will only teach a short part of each song (the first verse, a refrain). However, if you wish, you can teach the entire songs and give your class an entire repertoire of Christmas carols they can perform in a Christmas ministry event or Sunday service.

It is also a good idea to write the songs on a whiteboard/chalkboard for easy reference during the lesson. You can also write them on poster board to display in your room. There are student handouts for each lesson. Give one to each child.

## **Lesson Overview**

Lesson 1: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Lesson 2: Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Lesson 3: O Come, All Ye Faithful

Lesson 4: Joy To The World

I hope you can use "Christmas Carols" to help your children learn the true meaning of Christmas and understand why these songs they sing and hear during this time of year point the world back to Jesus.

Blessings to you and Merry Christmas!

-Angela of Kidmin Together

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# Lesson 1: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

## PREPARE

- Write the song on a whiteboard/chalkboard or poster board
- Have Bibles ready
- Have a handout for each child and pencils or pens

## SING IT

Sing the first verse of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (teach it if the children don't know how it goes).

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear  
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel

### ***Say It Another Way:***

*Come, Messiah (Savior, Jesus).*

*Release Israel (your people) from being a prisoner.*

*Your people have been cast away. They're lonely.*

*They will continue to cry out until your Son comes.*

*Rejoice! Celebrate! The Messiah (Jesus, Savior) will come and save you, Israel!*

## SAY IT ANOTHER WAY

Look at the carol and break down what it is saying. Ask the children what they think the song is saying. Explain any words, phrases, and lines they may not know or understand.

The lesson handout has a blank "Say It Another Way" (above). Instruct the children to write their own version of the carol. You can share the one above to inspire them.

## BREAK IT DOWN

This Christmas carol is like a prayer. Who are we praying to? (Answer: Emmanuel).

Emmanuel means "God With Us" and it's a name for the Messiah. Who is the Messiah? (Answer: Jesus)

Let's keep looking at this carol like a prayer. What are we praying to Jesus about? (Answer: to "ransom captive Israel") Today, we think of "ransom" as a noun, and it means a sum of money people pay or demand to release a prisoner. But "ransom" is also a verb, and it means to get or obtain the release of a prisoner. So in this carol, we're praying to Jesus to release the prisoner, Israel.

Who is Israel? (Answer: God's people.)

Back then, Israel was captured by the Romans. They were under Roman rule. They weren't a free country, but they wanted to be free. In this song, the prayer is for the Messiah to release them or save them. The song sings that they are mourning or crying in sadness because they are lonely and in exile (cast away). They feel like God has forgotten about them, so they will continue to mourn until the Son of God, the Messiah, appears.

# Lesson 1: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Israel is God's people. Today, that's us! We're God's people. When we sing this song, we're singing the prayer of Israel back then and also Israel today (our prayer) for Jesus to save us from being prisoners. We're not in actual prisons, but we can be prisoners of loneliness, sadness, fear, anger, unforgiveness, and other things that only God can save us from.

Let's look at the last part of the carol (the last two lines). These are not prayers, but encouragement. What are they saying? (Allow for answers) They're encouraging God's people to rejoice because Jesus is coming to save them. Today, we know that Jesus has come to save us.

How did Jesus come and save us? (Answer: He died and rose again to save us from sins). Jesus also continues to save us or help us today. How does He do that? (Allow for answers)

## **BIBLE TIME**

Read Matthew 1:18-25

Review Questions:

1. Verse 18 says Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_? (Answer: the Messiah)
2. Verse 21 says the baby is named Jesus because \_\_\_\_? (Answer: He will save people from their sins).
3. Verse 23 is a reference to what verse in the Old Testament? (Answer: See footnote, Isaiah 7:14, which is a prophecy about the Messiah. Jesus fulfilled this prophecy as proof that He's the Messiah).

## **DISCUSS IT**

In the Old Testament, God spoke to His people through prophets. Prophets are people who loved God and dedicated their lives to Him. Give me the name of one prophet in the Old Testament (Allow for answers, ex: Isaiah, Daniel, Zephaniah).

God told these prophets that He will send a Messiah, a Savior, to save the people of Israel. God also told them what the signs will be so they know who this Savior is. Some of these signs include: being born from a virgin, born in Bethlehem, betrayed for 30 pieces of silver, be resurrected. Who does that sound like? (Answer: Jesus! There are many more prophecies that Jesus fulfilled).

But it was a very long time from when the prophets told the people about the Messiah to when Jesus was born on Earth. Any guesses how long? (Answer: 400 years, it's about 400 years after the ministry of Malachi and the appearance of John the Baptist, 400 years between Old and New Testaments).

Can you imagine waiting 400 years for someone to save you? When we sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" we remember the 400 years of waiting for Jesus. It's a Christmas carol because Christmas is when we celebrate the end of the 400 years, the answer to our prayers. Jesus came!

# Lesson 1: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

## GAME TIME

Game: The Longest

Instructions: Divide into two teams. The children will stay seated. You will read the statements below. If it applies to them, they stand up. For every person who stands up, the team gets a point. Ex: If two people from Team 1 stands up, Team 1 gets two points. The team with the most points wins.

Statements: Stand up if...

1. You have had your hair as long as your waist.
2. You have traveled as long as or more than 7 hours in a car/van/bus.
3. You are wearing pants or skirt/dress long enough to reach the floor.
4. You have waited in line for as long as or more than 1 hour.
5. Your arm from armpit to tip of longest finger is as long as [pick an object near you].
6. You're wearing a belt or necklace. The longest gets a point.
7. You have long fingernails. The longest gets a point.
8. You can burp really long. The longest gets a point.
9. You have a younger sibling you waited to be born for as long as or more than 3 years.
10. You have lived in the same house for as long as or more than 5 years.

## APPLY IT

People waited for a very long time for Jesus to come. And when He came, He changed the world! That's why His coming is such a big celebration. When do we celebrate the day Jesus came to Earth? (Answer: Christmas).

On Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Jesus. What do we call a celebration of someone's birth? We call it a birthday. The truth is, we don't know for sure the very exact date of Jesus' birthday. But over many years, people have used Christmas or December 25 as the day to celebrate His birthday.

Jesus' birth is very important because it is God's answer to our prayers. Our Christmas carol today, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" is a prayer for Jesus to come and save us. And He did! That's a great reason to celebrate!

But there are still people today who are still praying for a Messiah, for help and salvation. Why do you think that is? (Allow for answers). They may not know that God answered that prayer already. They may not know that Jesus is the answer to that prayer. They may not know that Jesus can help them and save them.

Who are the people you know who may not know about Jesus? (Allow for answers)

This Christmas, you can help them. How? You can tell them why we celebrate Christmas. You can tell them that on Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Messiah, the answer to our prayers.

Let's fill out your handouts.

# Lesson 1 Handout: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

## Today's Christmas Carol

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear  
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel

### Say It Another Way

Write your own version of today's Christmas carol.

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" is a prayer for Jesus to save us. Write a prayer to Jesus about one thing you need Jesus' help in.

We waited 400 years for Jesus to be born on Earth. Draw something you're waiting for.

# Lesson 2: Hark The Herald Angels Sing

## PREPARE

- Write the song on a whiteboard/chalkboard or poster board
- Have Bibles ready
- Have a handout for each child and pencils or pens

## SING IT

Sing the first verse of "Hark The Herald Angels Sing" (teach it if the children don't know how it goes).

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 th'angelic host proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the newborn King!

### ***Say It Another Way:***

*The angels sing, "Listen! Glory and praises to the newborn King, that's Jesus! Peace and mercy on Earth. Because of Jesus, God and people are no longer separate. All you all stand up and be joyful. Join us angels in celebrating this victory. Join us in telling everyone that Jesus is born in Bethlehem. Listen! Glory to Jesus!"*

## SAY IT ANOTHER WAY

Look at the carol and break down what it is saying. Ask the children what they think the song is saying. Explain any words, phrases, and lines they may not know or understand.

The lesson handout has a blank "Say It Another Way" (above). Instruct the children to write their own version of the carol. You can share the one above to inspire them.

## BREAK IT DOWN

This Christmas carol is easy to understand. It sings about our Bible story today.

## BIBLE TIME

Read Luke 2:1-21

Review Questions:

1. In Verses 10-12, what did the angel say about Jesus? (Answer: He is the Savior, the Messiah, the Lord; He will be wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger)
2. In Verses 17 and 20, what did the shepherds do? (Answer: they told people about Jesus and praised God)
3. In Verse 18, how did the people react to what the shepherds said? (Answer: they were amazed).

# Lesson 2: Hark The Herald Angels Sing

## DISCUSS IT

We read that Joseph and Mary traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem because of a census. A census is when the government counts how many people belonged to each family living in their cities. Today, we do it by mail. Back then, they did in person, which is why Joseph had to go back to Bethlehem because that's where his family was from and most likely, where many of his family/relatives still lived. Mary went with him because they got married and she's now part of his family.

The Bible tells us there was no room for Joseph and Mary to stay in the inn. Historians say the inn was more like a guest room in somebody's house, not a hotel or motel. And this house probably belonged to one of Joseph's relatives. Because of the census, Joseph's family that lived in Bethlehem ran out of guest rooms, so Joseph and Mary had to stay in the stable.

With so many people in Bethlehem that night and many of them were Joseph's family, why do you think the angels chose to appear to shepherds and tell them first about the birth of Jesus? (Allow for answers).

When a baby is born in your family, who do you tell first? It's usually other family members. Maybe the grandparents, then aunts and uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews, then close friends, then maybe the church, then coworkers, and then Facebook and Instagram.

Jesus' birth was so important but the angels didn't go to family and friends first. They didn't go to city officials, governors, or kings. They went to shepherds, who were strangers to Joseph and Mary, and who had dirty, lonely, lowly (humble and low status), not-so-important jobs in the city.

This was not a mistake. They did this because, first, Jesus is our shepherd. Like shepherds bring sheep to safety, Jesus came to bring us salvation. Second, the angels told the shepherds first because Jesus didn't just come for important people. Jesus came for *all* kinds of people, even dirty, lonely, lowly people that everyone thinks is not so important.

## PLAY IT

Game: Messy Jobs

Instructions: Divide into two or more teams. Give each team a piece of paper and pen. Give them 3 minutes to write down as many messy jobs as they can think of. When time's up, each team will present their list. They will cross off any jobs that both teams listed down (ex: if both teams wrote garbage truck driver, they will cross it off their list). Give one point to a messy job that wasn't crossed off. The team with the most points wins.



# Lesson 2: Hark The Herald Angels Sing

## APPLY IT

The shepherds had dirty jobs and they were most likely a mess themselves because they had been staying outside in the fields. They didn't have tents or cabins or cars to stay in and stay clean. They sat on the ground or the grass and next to sheep and animals. Can you imagine being a mess when angels suddenly appeared to you? Maybe you'd try to fix your clothes first, make sure your hair is okay, and wipe your hands clean.

But you know what? The angels didn't care if the shepherds were dirty or messy. They just wanted to tell them about Jesus!

Have you ever had something so awesome happen that you didn't care what you looked like? What happened? (Allow for answers)

I can think of Christmas morning when I wake up or my parents wake me up and tell me to go open presents! I didn't care if I was still wearing my pajamas and haven't brushed my teeth or hair! It's just so exciting to open presents!

This is what it was like for the angels, and when the shepherds went and saw Jesus, this is what it was like for them. They didn't care that they haven't showered and they smelled like sheep. They went around and told other people about Jesus! They were so happy and excited like it was Christmas and they just got the best gift ever.

Because it *was* Christmas! And they *did* get the Best. Gift. Ever!

It's Christmas time and we should be like the angels and the shepherds. We should be so excited to tell other people about Jesus! What can you tell your friends about Jesus and Christmas? (Allow for answers)

Jesus also doesn't care if we're messy and smelly. Remember, He was born in a stable and slept in a manger, that's where you put hay that donkeys eat. And Jesus walked everywhere! His feet were always covered in dust and dirt. He knows what it's like to have messy clothes or dirty feet. Jesus just wants to spend time with us even if our clothes are messy or haven't brushed our teeth.

Sometimes, we can be clean, showered, and wearing the best clothes but inside, we're dirty. Maybe our hearts are unforgiving and our minds are hateful. We may know people who are like that, too. Clean on the outside, but dirty inside. Jesus doesn't care. He wants us to come to Him like the shepherds came to Him. Jesus can make our dirty insides clean.

Let's fill out your handouts.

# Lesson 2 Handout: Hark The Herald Angels Sing

## Today's Christmas Carol

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 th'angelic host proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the newborn King!

### Say It Another Way

Write your own rap version of today's carol.

The shepherds praised God for sending Jesus.

Write a prayer thanking God for 3 things you're thankful for.

The shepherds told people about seeing the angels and Jesus. Draw 3 family or friends you will invite to church this Christmas and write their names.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

# Lesson 3: O Come, All Ye Faithful

## PREPARE

- Write the song on a whiteboard/chalkboard or poster board
- Have Bibles ready
- Have a handout for each child and pencils or pens

## SING IT

Sing "O Come, All Ye Faithful" below (teach it if the children don't know how it goes).

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!  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord

### ***Say It Another Way:***

*Come, those of you who believe in God. Be joyful and victorious. Come to Bethlehem and see Jesus. He is born the king of heaven and earth. Come, let's worship Him! Come, let's praise Him! Jesus Christ is the Lord of all!*

## SAY IT ANOTHER WAY

Look at the carol and break down what it is saying. Ask the children what they think the song is saying. Explain any words, phrases, and lines they may not know or understand.

The lesson handout has a blank "Say It Another Way" (above). Instruct the children to write their own version of the carol. You can share the one above to inspire them.

## BREAK IT DOWN

This Christmas carol was originally intended to be a hymn, a somber worship song. Now, it's like a call to celebrate and be joyful! It's a call to come and adore or worship Jesus. In our Bible story today, we're going to read about people who were faithful and heard a call to worship Jesus.

## BIBLE TIME

Read Matthew 2:1-12

Review Questions:

1. In Verse 1, what does Magi mean? (Answer: wise men, other Bible versions may not use Magi but use wise men in this verse)
2. In Verses 4-6, how did the teachers of the law know where Jesus was born? (Answer: it was written in a prophecy in Micah 5: 2,4, see footnotes)
3. In Verse 11, what gifts did the Magi give to Jesus? (Answer: gold, frankincense, and myrrh)

# Lesson 3: O Come, All Ye Faithful

## **DISCUSS IT**

The Bible calls the people who traveled from the east as Magi or wise men. Magi is a word to describe a group of learned or academic men. They studied a lot. That's why they're also called wise men.

The Magi studied stars and saw this one particular star that appeared on a certain date (verses 2 and 7). Today, we call that astronomy, the study of things outside the atmosphere of Earth, like stars, planets, galaxies, etc. Today, there are high tech telescopes, computers, and satellites that help astronomers. The Magi didn't have any of those.

The Magi didn't just see this particular star and took note of it. They knew the star pointed to the king of the Jews (verse 2). They knew the star was a special sign, that it pointed them to someone important, someone they traveled very far to worship.

The Magi brought three gifts. The Bible doesn't say if there were only three Magi. There could actually be more! But tradition thinks there are three because the Magi gave three kinds of gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These gifts have meaning.

1. Gold as a symbol of kingship. Jesus is the King above all kings.
2. Frankincense (an incense) as a symbol of deity. Jesus is God.
3. Myrrh (an embalming oil) as a symbol of death. Jesus died to save us from our sins.

## **PLAY IT**

Game: I Know Something You Don't Know (20 Questions)

Instructions: On pieces of paper, write Christmas-y things (ie: Jesus, gifts, manger, star, tree, carols, ornaments, shepherds, Bethlehem, Jingle Bells, Silent Night etc.) Place them in a hat/box.

Divide into two teams. Each team will take turns, and every child in that team will take turns.

They will pick a piece of paper and say, "I know something you don't know."

Their team can ask Yes, No, Maybe questions and they can only answer with Yes, No, or Maybe.

The team only has 20 questions to ask. After the 20th question, they have 30 seconds to guess. They can also guess before reaching 20 questions.

If they guess correctly, they get a point. If they run out of time or guess incorrectly, it's the other team's turn.

# Lesson 3: O Come, All Ye Faithful

## APPLY IT

The Magi were wise not only because they studied a lot. They were also wise because they were faithful to God. They knew God would send a Messiah and looked out for the star that would point the way. They also knew who the Messiah was and what He would do, and chose gifts that had special meaning. Then they traveled far to worship Him. They were also wise because they listened to the warning in their dream not to go back to Herod. That warning was from God, and the Magi knew how to listen to God.

Our Christmas carol "O Come, All Ye Faithful" sounds like it was written about the Magi! But it's written for all of us to do what the Magi did. Be faithful and worship Jesus, the Messiah. On Christmas, we give and receive gifts from our family and friends. But do we give a gift to Jesus?

What kinds of gifts can you give to Jesus this Christmas? (Allow for answers)

One of the best gifts we can give to Jesus is to do something the Magi did when they found Him. They worshiped Jesus. We can worship Jesus this Christmas. We can join the church in singing worship songs and sing them from our hearts. We can worship Jesus by reading our Bibles. We can worship Jesus when we pray. We can worship Jesus by telling our family and friends about Him and inviting them to church. We can worship Jesus by listening and obeying to what He tells us to do.

Can we give an actual, physical gift to Jesus? (Allow for answers)

Let's open our Bibles and read Matthew 25:34-40.

Jesus said that whatever we do for those less fortunate than us, we do the same for Him. When we feed the hungry, clothe the poor, or visit the sick, it's like we're doing those things for Jesus.

We can't give an actual, physical gift to Jesus, but we can give an actual, physical gift to someone in need. When we do that, it's like giving that gift to Jesus. What are some gifts you can give to someone in need this Christmas? (Allow for answers)

Let's fill out your handouts.

# Lesson 3 Handout: O Come All Ye Faithful

## Today's Christmas Carol

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!  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord

### Say It Another Way

Turn today's carol into an invitation  
and write it below.

The Magi worshiped Jesus. Write a prayer of worship.

The Magi gave three gifts. Write three of your clothes or toys you can donate to the poor.  
Bring them to church next week and we'll donate them.

1.

2.

3.

# Lesson 4: Joy To The World

## PREPARE

- Write the song on a whiteboard/chalkboard or poster board
- Have Bibles ready
- Have a handout for each child and pencils or pens

## SING IT

Sing the first verse of "Joy To The World" (teach it if the children don't know how it goes).

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!  
Let Earth receive her King  
Let every heart prepare Him room  
And Heaven and nature sing  
And Heaven and nature sing  
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing

### ***Say It Another Way:***

*Joy to everyone because Lord Jesus is here!  
Let the whole world welcome Him.  
Make room in your hearts for Him.  
Everyone in heaven and Earth sing and rejoice!*

## SAY IT ANOTHER WAY

Look at the carol and break down what it is saying. Ask the children what they think the song is saying. Explain any words, phrases, and lines they may not know or understand.

The lesson handout has a blank "Say It Another Way" (above). Instruct the children to write their own version of the carol. You can share the one above to inspire them.

## BREAK IT DOWN

This Christmas carol is well known and straightforward (not confusing). It's easy to understand why there's joy in Christmas and why we sing. We're going to look at why the song says to receive the King and prepare a room for Him in our hearts.

## BIBLE TIME

Read Luke 2:22-35 (This is easiest to understand in the International Children's Bible or ICB version)

Review Questions:

1. In Verses 25-26, who was Simeon and what did the Holy Spirit tell him? (Answer: He was a righteous man waiting for Israel to be saved and the Holy Spirit said he won't die until he sees the Messiah)
2. In Verses 30-32, how did Simeon describe Jesus? (Answer: as salvation, revelation for all Gentiles or non-Jews aka us, and glory of Israel)
3. In Verse 35, what did Simeon tell Mary? (Answer: that a sword will pierce her soul or in the ICB version, things will happen that will make her heart sad)

# Lesson 4: Joy To The World

## DISCUSS IT

Our Bible story today talks about the time when Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to be dedicated to God. That's why we have a tradition of dedicating babies to God. Simeon lived in Jerusalem. He was righteous and faithful to God. He knew the Word of God and that God promised to send a Messiah to save Israel. The Holy Spirit told Simeon that he won't die until he sees the Messiah. That kind of gives us a clue that Simeon might be old.

When Simeon saw baby Jesus, he immediately knew who Jesus was! He knew Jesus was the Messiah and the salvation God sent. Simeon also knew something about Jesus we can find in verse 32. Simeon said Jesus was a light for the Gentiles or the non-Jews. All of Israel knew God would send a Messiah to save them, but Simeon knew that Jesus wasn't only going to save Israel (the Jews). Jesus was going to save *everyone*.

How did Jesus do this? (Allow for answers). Jesus did this by dying on the cross and rising up in three days. In verse 35, Simeon told Mary that a sword will pierce her soul or that things will happen that will make her heart sad. Simeon is talking about Jesus dying on the cross. It must have been painful and sad to see Jesus suffer and nailed on the cross.

In verse 34, Simeon said Jesus will be the reason many people in Israel will rise and many will fall. He's talking about the people who rose up and followed Jesus (like the disciples) and the people who didn't follow Jesus. They are the people who spoke against or didn't accept Jesus (also verse 34).

Can you think of people today who rose up and followed Jesus? (Allow for answers)

## PLAY IT

Game: Who's the Leader?

Instructions: Pick a child to be Guesser. Have the Guesser leave the room or face the wall or close eyes. Pick a child to be Leader without letting the Guesser know who it is.

The Leader will discreetly make up moves everyone will follow (pat head, tap nose), changing up the moves every 5-10 seconds.

The Guesser has to figure out who the Leader is.

Let the children take turns being Guesser and Leader.



# Lesson 4: Joy To The World

## APPLY IT

Just as there are people today who follow Jesus, there are people today who don't follow and don't accept Jesus. Can you think of people you know who don't follow Jesus? How do you know they don't follow Jesus? (Allow for answers)

In today's Christmas carol, "Joy To The World," there are two lines that say, "Let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room." That's because there are still people today that don't follow and don't accept Jesus. They don't receive Him as the King of their lives. Their hearts don't have room for Him. Why do you think that is? (Allow for answers)

Maybe they're hurt and angry. Maybe they just never heard of Jesus. What can you do to help them get to know Jesus this Christmas? (Allow for answers)

How can *you* make room for Jesus in your heart this Christmas? (Allow for answers)

The things that take up room in your heart are the things and people that you love, are important to you, and take up your time and energy. Here are some examples:

1. You love your family so you spend time with them by eating together or going on vacation together or playing together.
2. Sports or music or art is important to you so you make sure to practice and get better at it.
3. School takes up your time and energy. Maybe you like it or maybe you don't, but it has room in your heart.

How do you know Jesus has room in your heart? You need to make sure you spend time with Him and use some of your energy for Him. How do we do that? (Allow for answers). We can do that by going to church, reading our Bibles, participating in worship, praying, giving money for offering, and by helping the poor and needy.

On Christmas, there are lots of celebrations and reasons to be joyful. It's easy to get caught up in everything that's going on that we don't spend time with Jesus. Let's also remember to make room for Jesus in our hearts.

Let's fill out your handouts.

Class/Group Activity (in the handout): "Joy To The World" says "heaven and nature sing" so as a class or divided into groups, make an original Christmas song or rap song that praises Jesus and tells people about Him. If you can, record a video of the children performing it and share it with their parents.

# Lesson 4 Handout: Joy To The World

## Today's Christmas Carol

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!  
Let Earth receive her King  
Let every heart prepare Him room  
And Heaven and nature sing  
And Heaven and nature sing  
And Heaven, and Heaven,  
And nature sing

### Say It Another Way

Write your own rap version of today's carol.

Simeon thanked God for letting him see Jesus. Write a prayer thanking God for Jesus with 3 reasons why you're thankful for Jesus.

**Class/Group Activity:** Today's Christmas carol tells heaven and nature to sing. Work together to come up with an original Christmas song or rap song that praises Jesus and tells other people about Him. Write it down below.