



## Why Can't Christmas Be All Year Long?

By Edwina Neely



Winnie's bright eyes twinkled as she gazed at the sparkling Christmas lights across the street. Sleigh bells ringing, and laughter of children filled her ears. Then her eyes fell on her mother as she placed her perfect little pecan tarts in the oven. "Oh yummy, can I have one, Mommy?"

"No," Mommy replied. "They are for Christmas, honey."

"Oh! Mommy, why can't Christmas be all year long?"

"Oh, you know the answer to that question, Winnie."

Winnie skipped into the living room and stared at all the beautifully decorated gifts with her name on them. Then she silently skipped back into the kitchen with another question for her mother.

"Mommy, can I open my presents?"

"No, honey, they're for Christmas."

"Yeah, I know, but why do we always have to wait until then?"

Mommy didn't even bother to answer. She was busy getting some Christmas cookies out of the oven. Winnie decided to amuse herself with a book she had received last Christmas. She saw a manger with baby Jesus in it. She whispered to herself, "Jesus, You came so we can have Christmas all year long, didn't You?"

Winnie knew the answer to her question. It is an answer that the whole world should know. When Jesus is in our hearts, we *can* have Christmas all year long. Is your heart a manger? Is there any room for Him? Let Him live in you, so you can have Christmas all year long.