



Gather Together

Gather in a cozy room around a world map or globe. Have someone close their eyes and point to a place on the map or spin the globe and then point to a place on it. Name the country (or closest country) that is pointed to. Offer a prayer for the people who live there. Share highs and lows from the day. Turn in a Bible or children's Bible to Luke 2:8-20 and read the story of the shepherds and angels at Jesus' birth. Have a fun contest to see who can sing the best angels' song based on verse 14 ("Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"). Try fun musical styles (opera, country-western, rock, rap). Award each person an honorary title (Most Enthusiastic, Most Angelic, etc.).

Discover Together

As Christians, we have much to share with the world. The shepherds and angels remind us of something we can all share with others: joy and awe for God's blessings! God entered the world in a surprising way—as a baby, born to poor parents, laid in a manger. Imagine the joy and awe the shepherds experienced that night. Play a game of "find baby Jesus." Take turns hiding a doll in unexpected places (inside a cupboard, behind a chair, under a basket). Send everyone to search for the doll. When someone finds it, shout for joy!

Talk Together

Ask these questions of each other:

- When do you feel like sharing about Jesus? When do you feel like hiding your faith?
- What are some ways you celebrate Jesus with others?
- Why did the angels tell the shepherds not to be afraid?

Celebrate Together

As a family, calculate the number of days until Christmas. Point out that Christmas isn't the only time we can praise God for the birth of Jesus. Like the shepherds, we can glorify and praise God anytime, anywhere! How can your family praise God today? Paint a beautiful picture of Jesus? Or how about dancing to Christmas music, whatever the season?

Serve Together

Make cards to send to members of your congregation who live alone. Remind them of Jesus' presence and love in their lives. Be a sign of Christ's love!

Family Prayer

Say this prayer or blessing at the close of your time: Jesus, we rejoice in you always! Amen.

