

Deck the Halls: Countdown to Christmas



Use this guide to help your family learn why we celebrate Christmas.

First, watch this week's video at:

hillsideonline.com/kids

Christmas:
Celebrating
Jesus, God's
greatest gift

Memory Verse

"A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us." Isaiah 9:6, NIV

Bible Story

Jesus Is Promised
Micah 5:2,
Isaiah 9:6-7, Isaiah 7:14-15

Bottom Line

You can have hope because God is faithful.

Activity

Unbreakable

What You Need:

Pan or tray, towel, and various items in your home that won't break (example: spoon, wooden block, plastic toy, etc.)

What You Do:

Place all of the items on the tray and cover it with the towel. Tell your child that you'll uncover the tray for 10 seconds. They should try to remember as many of the items as possible.

Uncover the tray, count to 10, then recover it. Then have your child name as many of the items as they can.

Repeat the process again, and see if your child can remember any items that they forgot in the first round.

When you're finished, say, "Good job remembering those items! Did you notice something that all of those objects have in common? *(Pause for response.)* What would happen if I dropped them on the floor? They wouldn't break!" *(Drop one of the objects on the floor.)*

"Just like these objects, promises are meant not to be broken. But promises aren't always easy to keep, are they? Today, we heard about a promise that God made, and KEPT, a long time ago."

Talk About the Bible Story

Have you ever made a promise? Was it hard to keep?

What promise did God make that we heard about today? *(The promise to send a Savior—Jesus)*

How was Jesus a gift for all of us? *(He was sent to save us from our sin)*

Open the Bible together and read the following passages: Isaiah 9:6-7, Micah 5:2, and Isaiah 7:14-15

Parent: Share why these promises in Isaiah and Micah are important to you. How does it help you trust God to know that God has kept promises in the past?



Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"Dear God, we love You. Thanks for never making a promise that You don't keep! We love Christmas because it's the time we celebrate Jesus, Your greatest gift. Thank You for keeping Your promise to send us a Savior. We know that we can have hope because You are faithful, always. Help us to trust You more and more. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."