



Ask a friend or family member what character in the biblical Christmas story (Luke 1-2; Matthew 1-2) they relate to the most and why.

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Pass it on! The Christmas season often involves a lot of standing in line—at the grocery store, the mall, the post office, etc. Take a moment to really see the people around you. Ask the person ahead of you or behind you about their day. Wish them joy this season. Ask them if there is any way you can pray for them.

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At the dinner table, ask everyone to share what they think Christmas tastes like. Maybe the true taste of Christmas is the cool flavor of peppermint candy canes or the secret blend of spices in your family gingerbread recipe.

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As you drive, cook, clean, or complete other necessary tasks, ask the person or people you're with to sing a Christmas song or carol with you. It doesn't matter if you don't know all the words. Savor the moment of celebration. Chat about your favorite Christmas songs and why they're special to you.

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Reflect and discuss: In Charles Dickens' famous story, A Christmas Carol, Ebenezer Scrooge learns the meaning of Christmas through visits from the embodiments of Christmas Past, Present, and Future. If you received similar visitors, what would they show you? Share a meaningful memory from Christmas past, a current tradition that is special to you, and a hope you have for the future.

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Ask a kid what they would give Jesus if they had been one of the wise men. Why that gift?

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In a group, see who can remember the most names of Jesus from the Bible. Which one is your favorite, and why? Here are some examples: Mighty Counselor, Prince of Peace, the Lion of Judah, the Good Shepherd, our High Priest, the Lamb of God, the Alpha and the Omega, and the Bread of Life.

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Ask a friend or family member: What was the best gift you ever received for Christmas? What was the gift you were the most excited to give?

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Pass it on! Brainstorm simple, free gifts you can give today. Open doors for others. Brush snow off the windshield of the car parked next to you. Let someone go ahead of you in line. Leave a kind note for someone. Give as many simple gifts as you can. If someone comments on your Christmas spirit, give them this card and invite them to do the same.

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At the dinner table, have everyone share a favorite Christmas tradition. What makes it special? How does it help us remember the true meaning of Christmas?

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Ask a kid, if you couldn't spend Christmas at home and had to celebrate it elsewhere, where would you want to go for Christmas?

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Ask a friend or family member what part of the Christmas season they find the most stressful. Offer to pray over the sources of anxiety or stress they are experiencing now.

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Reflect and discuss: Chat with someone about your favorite Christmas movie. When was the first time you saw it? Why is it your favorite? Do aspects of the story remind you of the biblical Christmas story?

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In a group, ask if anyone has ever experienced a dream that felt like a message from God or an encounter with an angel. How did the experience impact your actions, faith, and relationship with God? God speaks through dreams and angelic messengers several times in the Christmas story.

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Reflect and discuss: Play the Six-Word Story Game. Tell the biblical Christmas story in six words or less or challenge others to retell a well-known Christmas story or movie in six words or less while the rest of the group guesses what the movie or story is.

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Ask a kid: Would you rather be a shepherd or a wise man, and why? (Be prepared for a lengthy discussion on the merits of sheep vs. camels.)

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Ask a friend or family member:
What do you look forward to the most about the Christmas season? Why is that aspect, tradition, or activity so special to you?

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In a group, ask everyone to complete the sentence:
it wouldn't be Christmas without _____.
Talk about the most meaningful moments of Christmas.

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At the dinner table, turn to the person next to you and share a memory of them that you treasure. It can be a Christmas memory, but it doesn't have to be. Relationships with our loved ones are a gift.

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Ask a friend who speaks a language you don't speak how to say "Merry Christmas" in their language. Practice. Ask them about their holiday traditions and plans.

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In a group, ask everyone to say what they think "Christmas spirit" means. It's a phrase that's used a lot in Christmas movies, songs, and stories. Is Christmas spirit important?

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Ask a kid, if you couldn't find a Christmas tree and had to decorate a different plant instead, what plant would you use? How would you decorate it?

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In a group, ask everyone if they could give one gift to everyone in the world, what would it be? Why?

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Ask friends or family if it were their job to create a holiday on the day after Christmas, what kind of celebration would they create? Would there be special food and games? What would it be called? What would it celebrate?

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