



12 Days of  
Christmas



Each of these daily reflections is a simple reminder of the truth of Christmas we find in traditional Christmas songs. Rather than another thing to check on your to-do list this Christmas season, we hope they'll help you slow down and contemplate the powerful truths being sung and played all around you during the month of December. Each day includes a powerful lyric from a well-known Christmas song, a scripture reading to help you dig deeper into its meaning, and a discussion question that we hope will help you think more deeply about what God did at Christmas to create meaningful thoughts and conversations around the dinner table, in the car, or wherever else you might hear these songs playing.

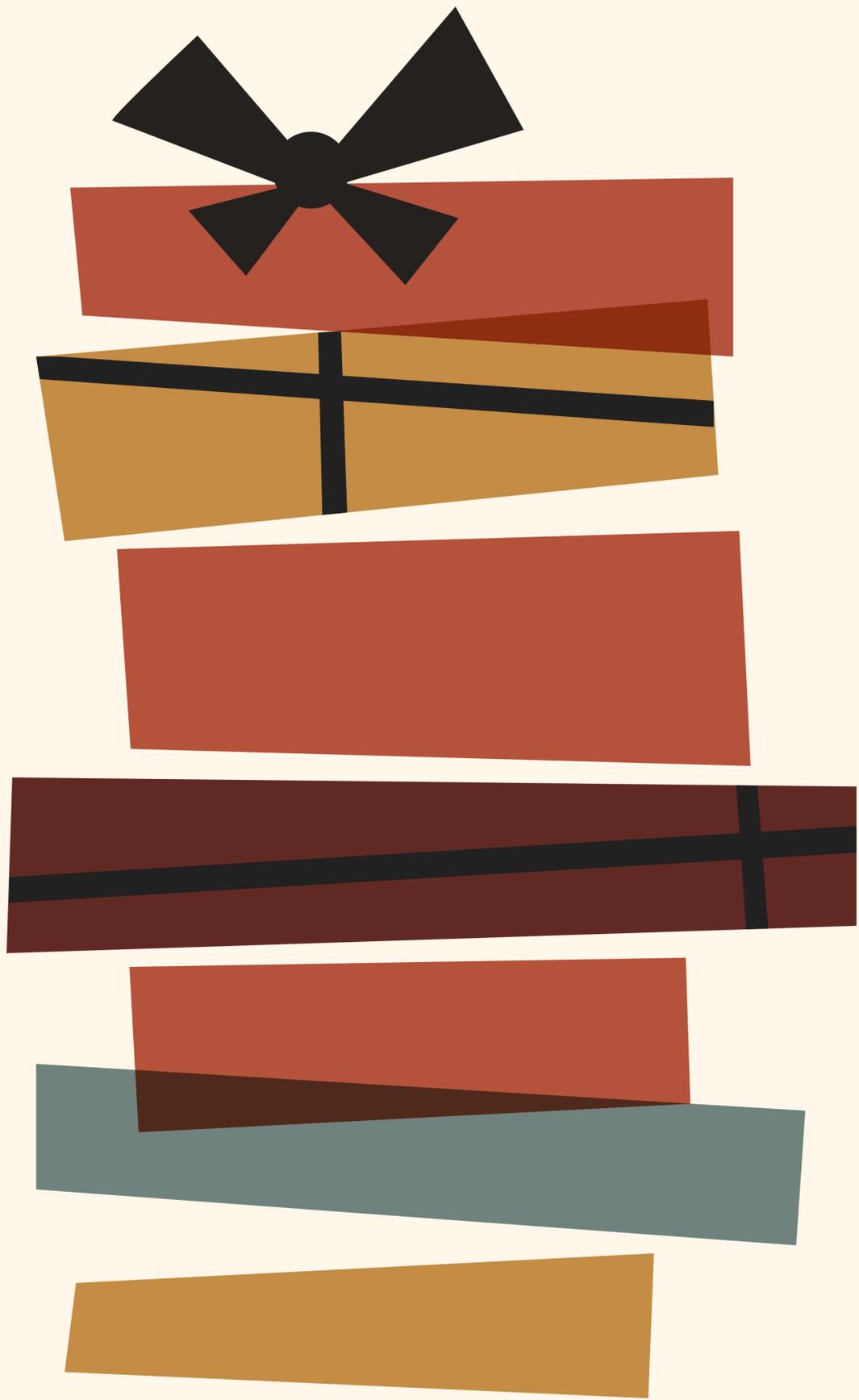
If you'd like to listen along with us, you can find our Twelve Days of Christmas with Beachcities playlist on [Spotify](#).



Each Christmas, we turn our hearts toward Jesus: the baby in a manger, the newborn king, the holy child. And, for one time each year, the whole world joins us. In every other arena of our lives, the secular has overtaken the sacred. But Christmas is different. Turn on the TV and you'll see it: Christmas movies of every kind, reminding us about love and hope and joy and peace. Turn on the radio and you'll hear it: favorite songs that remind us of who Jesus really is, putting all his glory, majesty and goodness on display without even realizing it. Even the Grinch knows that "Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more."

But the true magic of Christmas lies not in the laughter of children or the kindness of strangers or even the warmth of a family; the true magic of Christmas lies in its meaning. It lies in the fact that, two thousand years ago, Jesus came to Earth to rescue us. The Creator of the universe became a humble baby in a manger; and, in that moment, the world was never the same. The laughter and the kindness and the warmth are only possible because of that baby.

And perhaps there is even a little more magic, still: in a world that has forgotten Him, our King has placed little reminders inside familiar melodies. We hum along to them in the grocery store, we download and stream them and perform them on stages. Isn't that just like Him, though--to use to ordinary, the unexpected, the commonplace? Without realizing it, one time a year, our whole world truly proclaims the most glorious act of God.

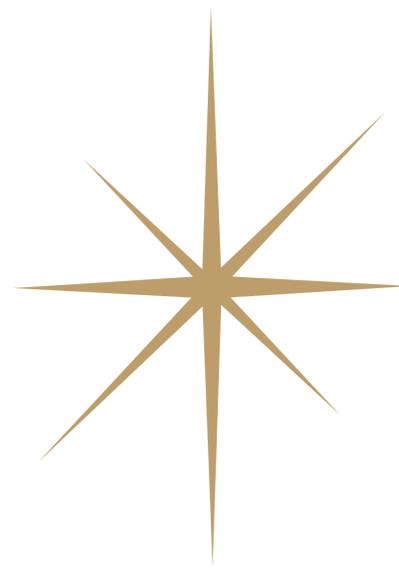




# 1) Away in a Manger



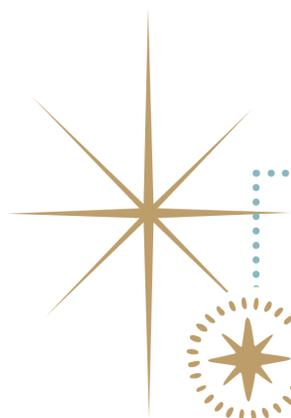
“Away in a manger,  
No crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus  
Lay down his sweet head”



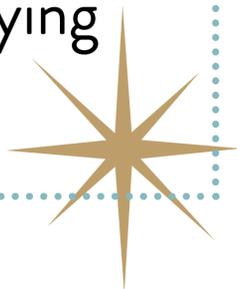
“Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave, and was born as a human being.” **Philippians 2:6-7**



Play ***“Away In A Manger”*** on Spotify



Why do you think Jesus was born into such humble circumstances? What was God trying to help us understand?





# Go Tell It on the Mountain



“Down the lonely manger  
The humble Christ was born  
And God sent salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn.”

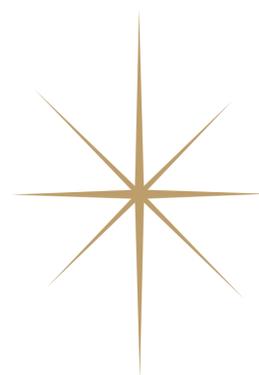


“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the  
nations, baptizing them in the name of the  
Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”

**Matthew 28:19**



Play *“Go Tell It On The Mountain”* on Spotify



How can your family help others experience  
and understand who Jesus is this Christmas  
season?



# Hark! the Herald Angels Sing



“Born that man no more may die,  
born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth.”

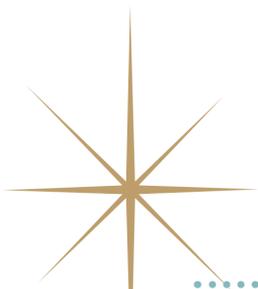


“This means that anyone who belongs to  
Christ has become a new person. The old  
life is gone; a new life has begun!”

**2 Corinthians 5:17**



Play “*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*” on Spotify



How have you experienced new life in Jesus?





# Joy to the World



“Joy to the world!  
The Lord is come!  
Let earth receive their King!”



“Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice! Tell the nations, ‘The Lord reigns.’”

**1 Chronicles 16:31**



Play *“Joy to the World”* on Spotify



What do you think makes a good king? In your experience does Jesus measure up to that?





# O Holy Night



“Long lay the world in sin  
And error pining,  
Till He appeared and the  
Soul felt its worth.



A thrill of hope,  
The weary soul rejoices;  
For Yonder breaks a  
New glorious morn!”



“He will wipe every tear from their eyes,  
and there will be no more death or sorrow  
or crying or pain. All these things are gone  
forever.” **Revelation 21:4**



Play **“O Holy Night”** on Spotify



When we celebrate Christmas, we’re remembering something that already happened. But what outcome of Christmas do we still have to look forward to?





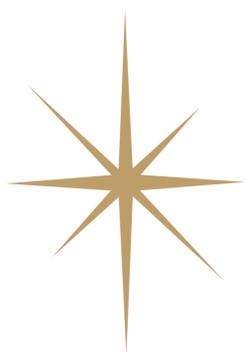
# O Come all Ye Faithful



“O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord”



“And you must love the Lord your God with  
all your heart, all your soul, and all your  
strength.” **Deuteronomy 6:5**



Play *“O Come all Ye Faithful”* on Spotify



What does it mean to adore someone?  
How do you adore Jesus?





# O Come O Come Emmanuel



“From depths of hell Thy people save  
And give them victory o’er the grave.”



“From you know that God paid a ransom to  
save you from the empty life you inherited  
from your ancestors. And it was not paid  
with mere gold or silver, which lose their  
value. It was the precious blood of Christ,  
the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.”

**1 Peter 1:18-19**



Play *“O Come O Come Emmanuel”* on Spotify



What has Jesus freed you from? What  
did it cost him? Does the significance of  
Christmas change when you think about  
why Jesus was born?





# O Little Town of Bethlehem



“Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.”



“But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, are only  
a small village among all the people of Ju-  
dah. Yet a ruler of Israel, whose origins are  
in the distant past, will come from you on  
my behalf.” **Micah 5:2**



Play “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*” on Spotify



Imagine you lived in the town of Bethlehem.  
What would you think when you heard about  
Jesus being born?





# Silent Night



“Silent night  
Holy Night  
All is calm  
All is bright.”



“Be still, and know that I am God! I will be honored by every nation. I will be honored throughout the world.” **Psalm 46:10**



Play “*Silent Night*” on Spotify



How can you make time to be still during Christmas to remember what God did for us?





# What Child is This



“Nails, spears shall pierce him through  
The cross bore for me, for you.”



“But he was pierced for our rebellion,  
crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we  
could be whole. He was whipped so we  
could be healed. All of us, like sheep, have  
strayed away. We have left God’s paths to fol-  
low our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the  
sins of us all.” **Isaiah 53:5-6**



Play “*What Child is This*” on Spotify



Why was Jesus born?





# The First Noel



“Born is the king of Israel!”



“For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity.” **Isaiah 9:6-7**



Play “***The First Noel***” on Spotify



What are some ways people show respect or reverence to a king? How can we show respect or reverence toward Jesus?





# Angels We Have Heard on High



“Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing,  
Come adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.”



“There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.” **Galatians 3:28**



Play *“Angels We Have Heard on High”* on Spotify



How does Jesus unify us with other Christians?



