

December 01 | Sunday

Jesus is the Reason for the Season

Read [Matthew 1:18-15](#)



02 | Mon – What if...? | Read [Matthew 1:23 / John 1:14](#)

Christians often use a phrase during this season to remind themselves and others of the reason they celebrate Christmas: **Jesus** is the reason for the season. What if you believed these words and made him the focus of your holiday? What would you add or delete or change this year if you planned everything around the excitement and joy that comes from celebrating God coming to earth in human form to live among us?

03 | Tue – Importance of a name | Read [Matthew 1:21 / Philippians 2:9-11](#)

Parents of newborns are very thoughtful about the name they give their child. They often consider its meaning and how it will impact their child in the future. God himself chose the name for His Son. *Jesus* was a common name in that culture [the Greek form of the Hebrew name *Joshua* which means *The Lord saves*] but God took this ordinary name and made it the most precious and powerful in the world. Aren't you thrilled that you know Jesus?

04 | Wed – Jesus' middle name | Read [John 1:19-20, 40-42](#) and [4:25-26](#)

Children sometimes think that *Christ* is Jesus' middle name because they hear both together so often. No one called him *Christ* - which means *messiah* - until he was an adult and was revealed as the Son of God. For hundreds of years, the Jews had watched and waited for the promised Messiah but when he finally arrived, few people recognized him. How can you keep from missing Jesus in the busyness of this season?

05 | Thu – Foretold | Read [Luke 2:25-32](#)

Many prophecies in the Old Testament about Jesus' life were written 500-1200+ years before he was born. For example, he would be born in a tiny town called Bethlehem (Micah 5:2-5), he would be a descendant of King David (Isaiah 9:7/Luke 1:31-32) and he would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14). Have you ever waited a long time for something, like Simeon and Anna? How did it affect your joy when it finally happened?

06 | Fri – The birth date | Read [Colossians 1:15](#)

Birth dates were not recorded in ancient times because many babies died during their first year of life. That is why no one knows what day Jesus was born. Quite a few years later, December 25th was chosen as the date to celebrate the fact that, when Jesus was born, God became flesh and lived among humans to show them what He was like. What are some things about Jesus that give you new insight into God's heart, character, and personality?

07 | Sat – The rest of the story... | Read [Romans 14:9 / John 12:27](#)

Christmas is only the beginning. And unfortunately, the beautiful decorations, familiar carols, heart-warming traditions, and gift-giving celebrations will disappoint and fade unless they are connected with the *rest* of the story. You can never compare the temporary happiness of this season with the incredible joy you will find at the empty tomb. What could you do this holiday season to remind yourself again of the purpose for which Jesus was born?