

# Christmas Karaoke

## Family Devotion

### Week 4 – Silent Night

#### Read Luke 2:1-7

*"Silent night, holy night. All is calm, all is bright. 'Round yon virgin Mother and Child. Holy infant so tender and mild. Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace."*

I want you to picture in your mind the night Jesus was born. Envision Mary holding baby Jesus. Remember that He was born in a stable (which was really a cave), so there was no rocking chair for her to sit and rock Him to sleep. There was no good place to sit and hold Him. But I can just picture Mary, sitting on the floor of the cave, holding Jesus and rocking Him back and forth. And all is at peace.

The Christmas hymn, *Silent Night* (written in Austria in 1818 by a man named Joseph Mohr), paints a beautiful picture for us of the night Jesus was born. The night was silent. There were no loud noises or sounds coming from the town of Bethlehem. No late night gathering of people. Nothing. Everything around Mary and baby Jesus was at peace.

Let's picture something else from that night. As the first verse says, *"all is calm, all is bright."*

I envision a clear night with a bright light shining out of the cave where Mary, Joseph, and baby

Jesus were staying. The Light of the World had just been born so I believe that His light was shining so bright from that cave. And what a peaceful light it was.

One of my favorite times to sing the Christmas hymn, *Silent Night*, is on Christmas Eve. At the end of our church service, we take lights (we use glow sticks, but others may use candles), we turn out the lights in the sanctuary and as we hold up our lights, we sing *Silent Night* (acapella...without any instruments). The voices singing together is beautiful. The light shining brightly is so peaceful. This song gives me a great mental picture of the night Jesus was born. And oh, what a peaceful night it was.

*Thank You, God, for sending Jesus to be born to us. Help me to remember that with Jesus I will always have peace. I love You, Jesus. Amen.*

## Karaoke Time!

Write out the lyrics to this Christmas song on a separate sheet of paper. Then search the internet for your favorite version of this song. **My favorite version of *Silent Night* for kids is by Listener Kids.** Play the song and sing together as a family! Or if your family doesn't want to sing, just listen and enjoy the music.

## Prayers & Pics

As you close out your family devotion time, do these two things. First, write down any prayer requests or praises for today. Then pray together as a family for these specific requests. Second, have kids draw pictures of the Christmas song for the day. Have them draw out what happens in the song.

# Family Game

## Week 4 - Nativity Bingo

**Supplies Needed:** *Nativity Bingo cards and calling cards, M&Ms (or other candy to use as bingo markers), small prizes*

*This Nativity Bingo set includes 6 Bingo cards, plus 1 set of calling cards.*

Cut apart the calling cards (they are on 2 pages). Mix up the cards and place in a basket. Give each person a Bingo card along with a small cup of M&Ms (or other candy) to use as their Bingo markers.

Have one person pull a card from the basket and call out. If you have that picture, then you will place a Bingo marker there. After each one is called, talk about the picture and how it represents the Nativity story. Continue calling out cards until all people have Bingo.

A person can Bingo by getting 5 across, 5 down, or 5 diagonally. Have small prizes for each person when they Bingo!

# Family Craft

## Week 4 – Toilet Paper Roll Nativity

**Supplies Needed:** *empty toilet paper rolls, construction paper, markers or crayons, glue stick, (other supplies you could use if you like: felt, foam, tissue paper, etc.)*

Your family will be creating the characters from the Nativity story using empty toilet paper rolls! You can create as many characters as you like, but definitely need to create Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus. You can also include an angel, shepherd, 3 wisemen, and some animals!

Cut construction paper to fit the size of the toilet paper roll. Have kids decorate each piece of construction paper as a character. If you have multiple kids, assign each one a different character to decorate. Kids can use markers, or they can cut more construction paper, foam, or felt to use to decorate.

For example, for Mary you could use light blue construction paper for her dress and light blue or white felt for her headpiece. Draw in a face with markers. For Joseph, you could use brown construction paper and brown felt for his headpiece. And then use black felt or construction paper for his beard. Draw in a face with markers. There are lots of ways to decorate these so let your children use their creativity!

After you have finished your nativity set, place on display in your home or even let this be a set that your children can play with.

# Christmas Cookie

## Week 4 – Christmas Cookie Bars

1 cup brown sugar

1/2 cup white sugar

3/4 cup butter, softened

2 large eggs

2 tsp vanilla extract

1 tsp baking soda

1 tsp salt

3 cups all-purpose flour

1 cup chocolate chips

1 cup Christmas M&M's (1/2 cup for batter and 1/2 cup for top)

1/4 cup white chocolate chips (for topping)

Preheat oven to 325°. Spray a 9x13 pan with cooking spray. Using a hand mixer, cream together the brown sugar, white sugar, and butter until light and fluffy. Add in the eggs and vanilla. Beat until smooth. Add baking soda and salt. Mix until well blended. Slowly beat in the flour. Mix in 1 cup chocolate chips and 1/2 cup M&M's. Pour batter in the 9x13 pan and spread evenly. Top with the remaining 1/2 cup of Christmas M&M's and the white chocolate chips. Bake for 25-30 minutes, until lightly brown. Cool and cut into squares.