

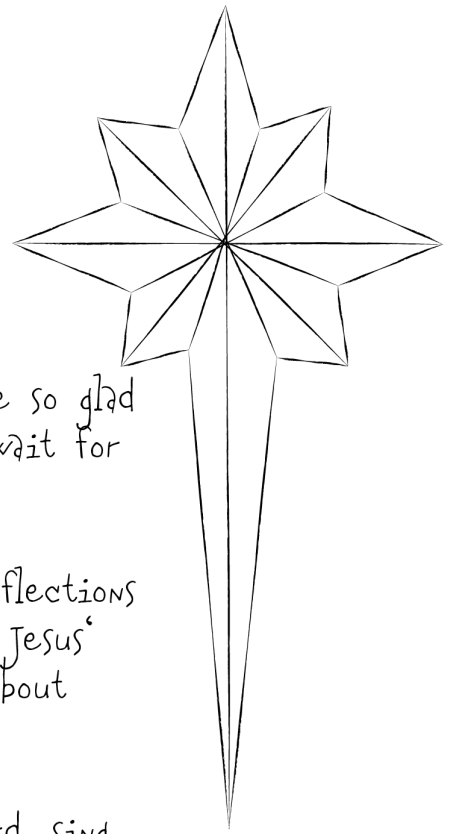
celebrating Jesus' coming . . .

Advent 2021

and waiting for Him to come again!



How to use this booklet . . .



Thanks for joining us for Advent at Little Shoots! We are so glad to have the chance to celebrate Jesus' first coming and wait for His second together with you.

This booklet will serve as a guide through our Advent reflections this month. Each week we will spend time reflecting on Jesus' birth and how we can celebrate His coming by thinking about hope, preparation, joy, love and the gift of Christ.

Use this booklet with your family to memorize God's Word, sing songs, and spend time talking about how these reflections impact your life. Write or draw in reflection to what God is teaching you. We would love to see pictures of how you use your Advent guide!

Our family will be keeping our booklets together and celebrating Advent each Sunday from November 28 until Christmas Day. We will be lighting a candle each week as we discuss these questions and spend time worshipping God together. Maybe you can join us in doing the same! Maybe you can listen to the Little Shoots episode while eating dinner, then spend time worshipping together as a family.

We are looking forward with you to Christmas, to Christ, and to the promise that Jesus will come again and make everything new. What better gift could we hope for?!

And we know and believe that **if God promises it, He will do it!**



WEEK ONE

hope

For God alone, O my soul, wait in
silence, for my hope is from him.

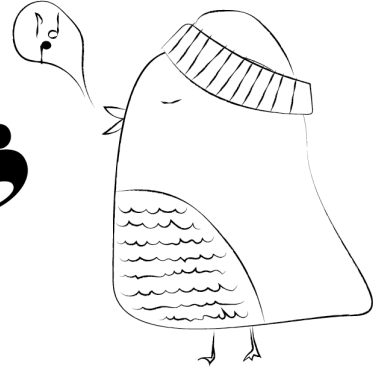
He only is my rock and my
salvation, my fortress; I shall not
be shaken. On God rests my
salvation and my glory; my mighty
rock, my refuge is God. Trust in
him at all times, O people; pour
out your heart before him; God is
a refuge for us. Selah.

Psalm 62:5-8

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Come light our Hearts

by Sandra McCracken



For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait
For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait
Truly our hope is in You
Truly our hope is in You

O Lord of life, our only hope
Your radiance shines
On all who look -- to You in the dark
EMMANUEL come, come light our hearts

For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait
For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait
Truly our hope is in You
Truly our hope is in You



O Joy above all other loves
In you we find more than enough
We come as we are, O heal and restore
Come light our hearts

Discuss

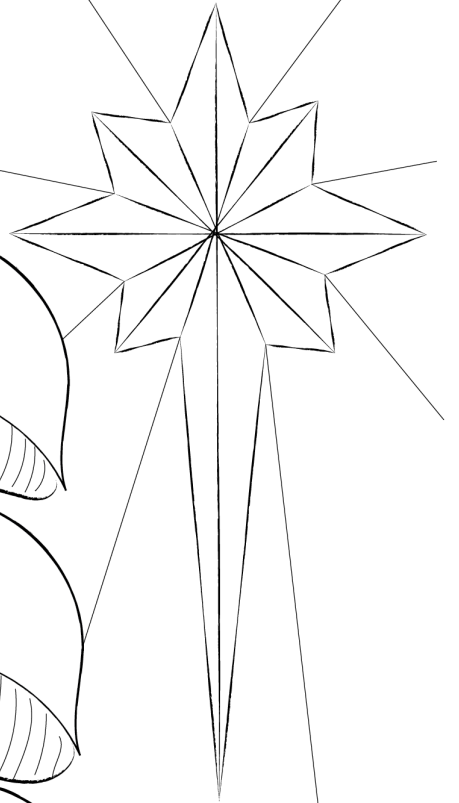
1. What is something you have hoped for?

2. What is a way that sin has affected your life?

3. What is a promise of God that changes your life?

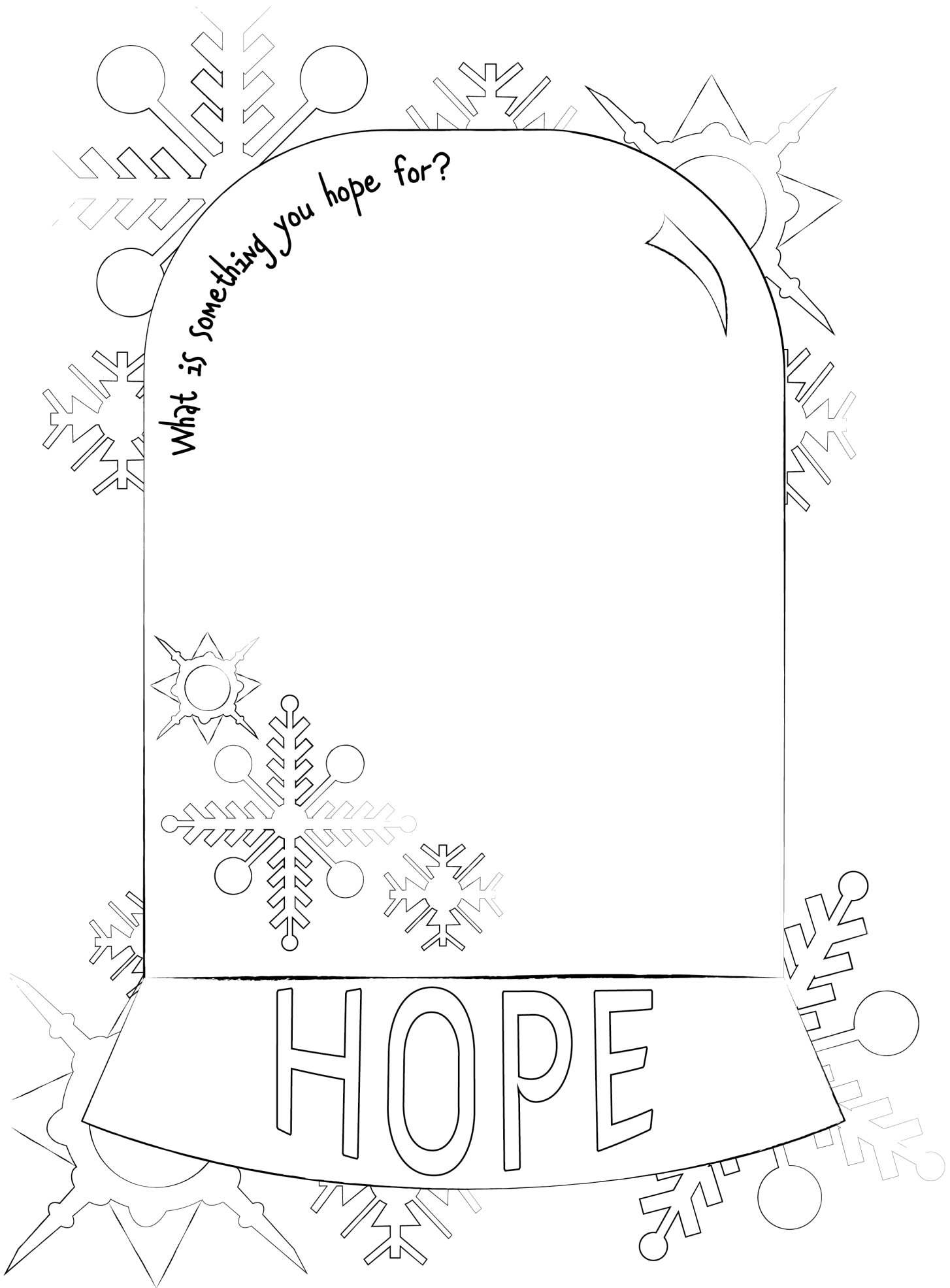
4. What is a promise of God that is difficult for you to believe?

5. How does Christmas help you understand hope better?



What is something you hope for?

HOPE





preparation

WEEK TWO

A voice cries: "In the wilderness
prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway
for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made
low;

the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

And the glory of the LORD shall be re-
vealed,

and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Isaiah 40:3-5

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We Three Kings

We three kings of orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain,
Moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.



Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King for ever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign.



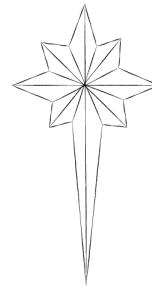
Frankincense to offer have I,
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship Him, God most high.



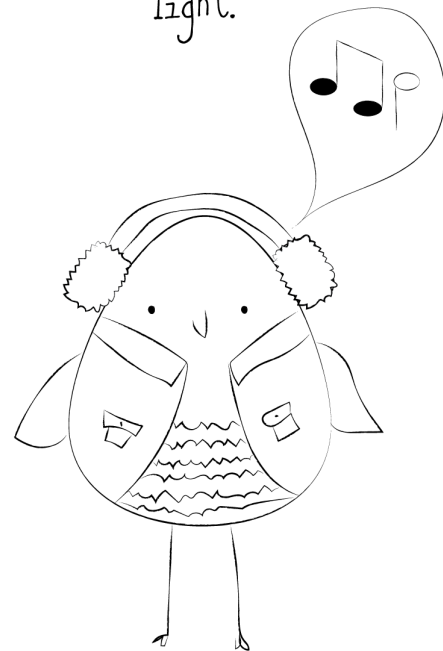
Myrrh is mine,
Its bitter perfume breathes
A life of gathering gloom.
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone cold tomb.



Glorious now behold Him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice!
Heaven sings, 'Alleluia!'
'Alleluia!' the Earth replies.



Chorus:
O star of wonder, star of
night,
Star with royal beauty
bright.
Westward leading, still
proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect
light.



Discuss

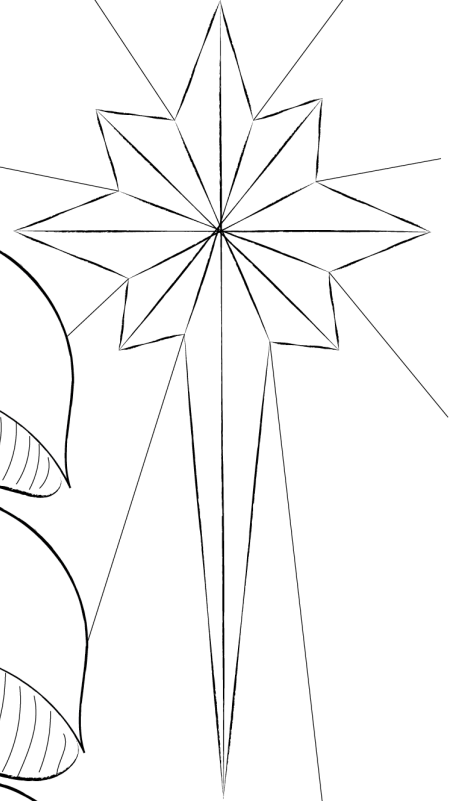
1. What is a way God has proved a promise to you?

2. Do you study God's Word to know what His promises are?

3. How can we be good students of God's Word?

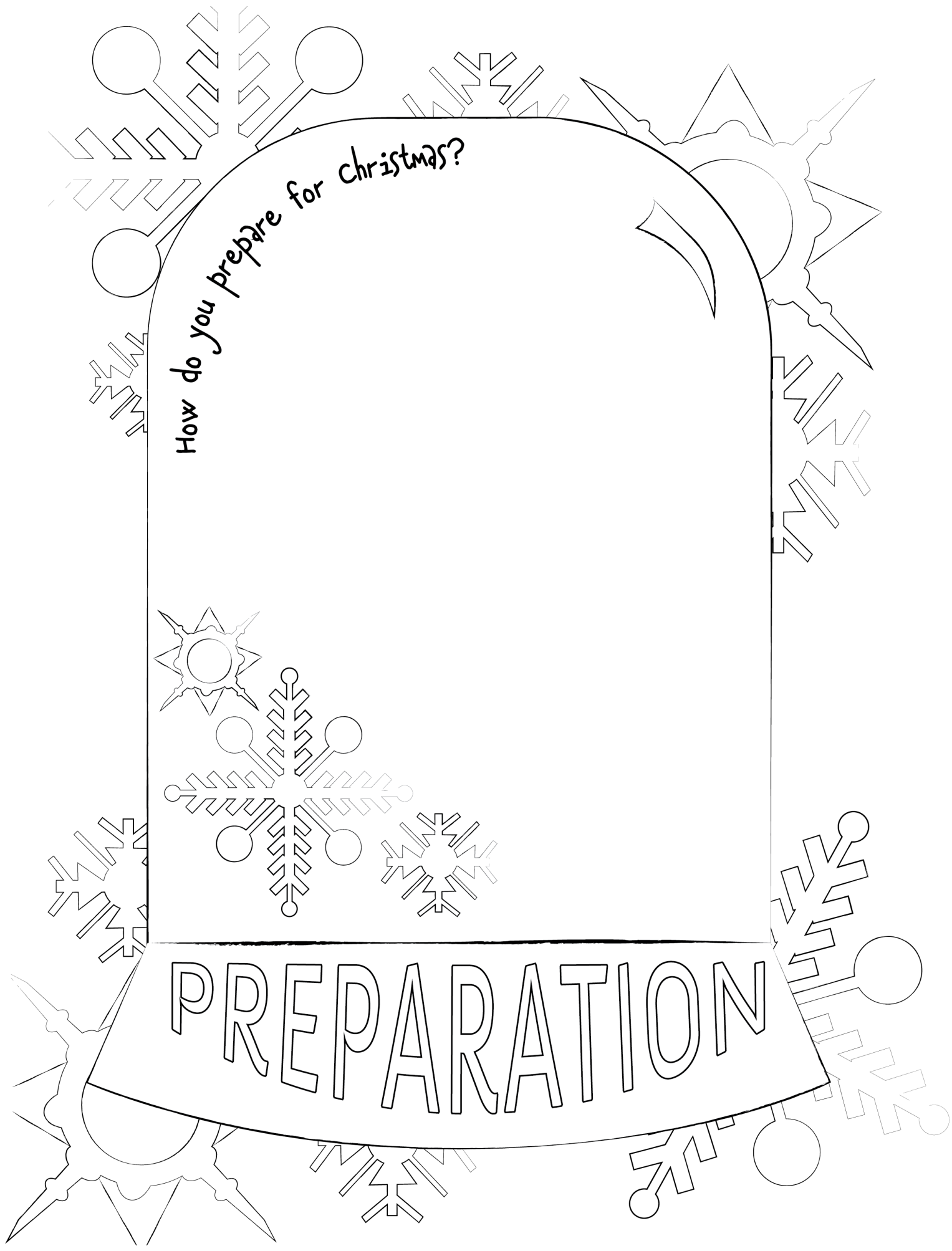
4. What are some ways we know that Jesus will come again?

5. How can we prepare for Jesus to come again together?



How do you prepare for Christmas?

PREPARATION





WEEK THREE

joy

And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles will hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

ROMANS 15:12-13

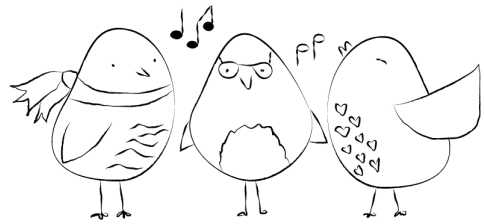
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Joy to the World

Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King"
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
With angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem

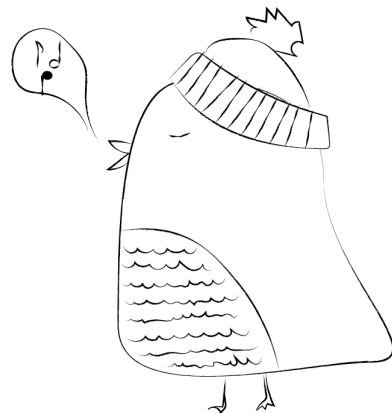
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of Earth
Born to give them second birth
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see

Hail the incarnate deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Pleased as man with men to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel



Hail the Heaven-born Prince of
Peace

Hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all He brings
Risen with healing in His wings
Christ, the highest heaven adore
Christ, the everlasting Lord
Come, Desire of Nations, come
Fix in us Thy humble home
Come, Desire of Nations, come
Fix in us Thy humble home



Discuss

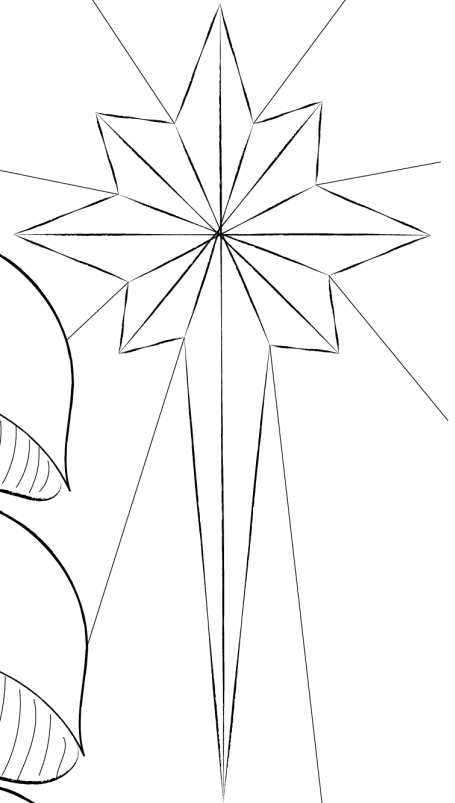
1. What are a few things that bring you joy?

2. Are joy and happiness the same or different? Why?

3. What do you think God wants us to find joy in?

4. How is joy a mark of a Christian?

5. Can we choose to be joyful? How will our lives look if we do?



What in this season brings you joy?

JOY





WEEK FOUR

love

And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles will hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

ROMANS 15:12-13

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Away in a Manger



Away in a manger
No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus
Lay down his sweet head
The stars in the bright sky
Look down where he lay
The little Lord Jesus
Asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing
The poor baby wakes
But little Lord Jesus
No crying he makes
I love thee Lord Jesus
Look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle
'Til morning is nigh

Away in a manger
No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus
Lay down his sweet head
I love thee Lord Jesus
Look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle
'Til morning is nigh
Stay by my cradle
'Til morning is nigh

Discuss

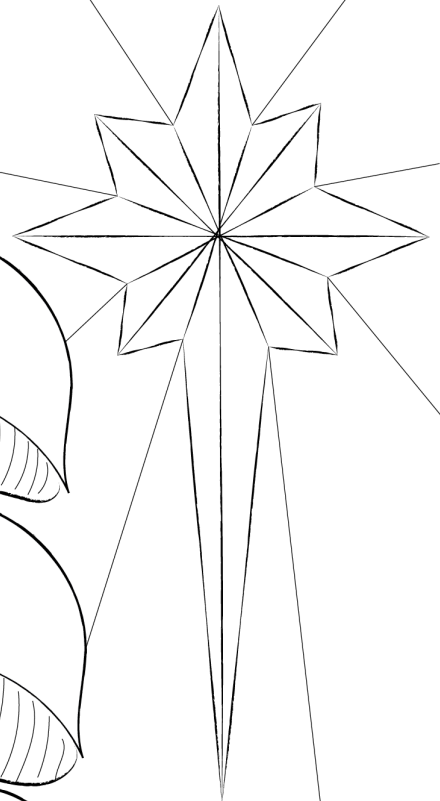
1. Who are some people you love a lot?

2. How do you show them that you love them?

3. How does Jesus' birth show us love?

4. How can you know that God loves you?

5. If God loves us as He does, how can we show that love to others?



How will you show love to someone this week?

LOVE





adoration

CHRISTMAS DAY!

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

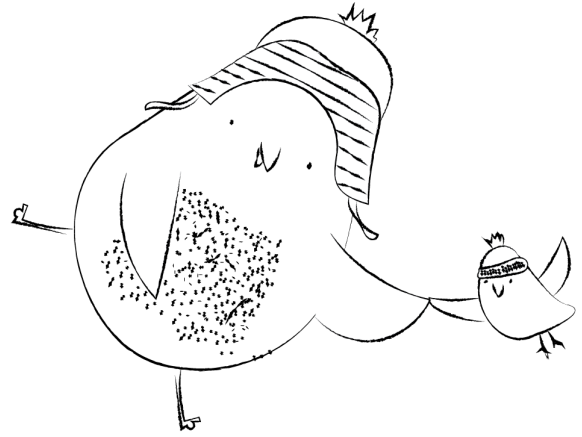
Luke 2:10-14

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Glory be to God

by Bob Kauflin

Glory be to God on high
Let peace on earth descend
God comes down before our eyes
To Bethlehem
God invisible appears
Endless ages wrapped in years
He has come who cannot change
And Jesus is His name



BRIDGE

Hosanna, hosanna
The Lamb of God has come
Hosanna, hosanna
He is the promised One

Emptied of His majesty
He comes in human form
Being's source begins to be
And God is born
All our griefs He'll gladly share
All our sins He'll fully bear
He will cover our disgrace
And suffer in our place

Let the joyful news ring out
The Prince of Peace proclaim
Lift your heart and voice to shout
Immanuel's name
God has kept His promises
What a work of grace this is
Son of Mary, chosen One
The Lamb of God has come



Discuss

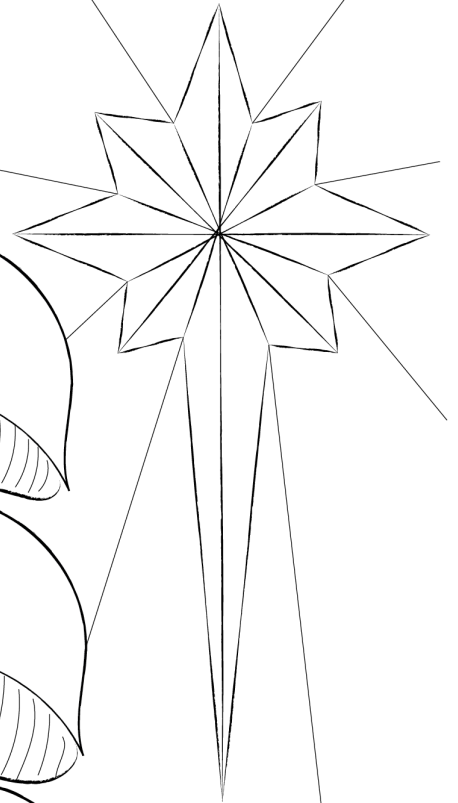
1. What gift did God give to us?

2. What examples of adoring Jesus do we see in the Bible?

3. How does adoring Jesus bring God glory?

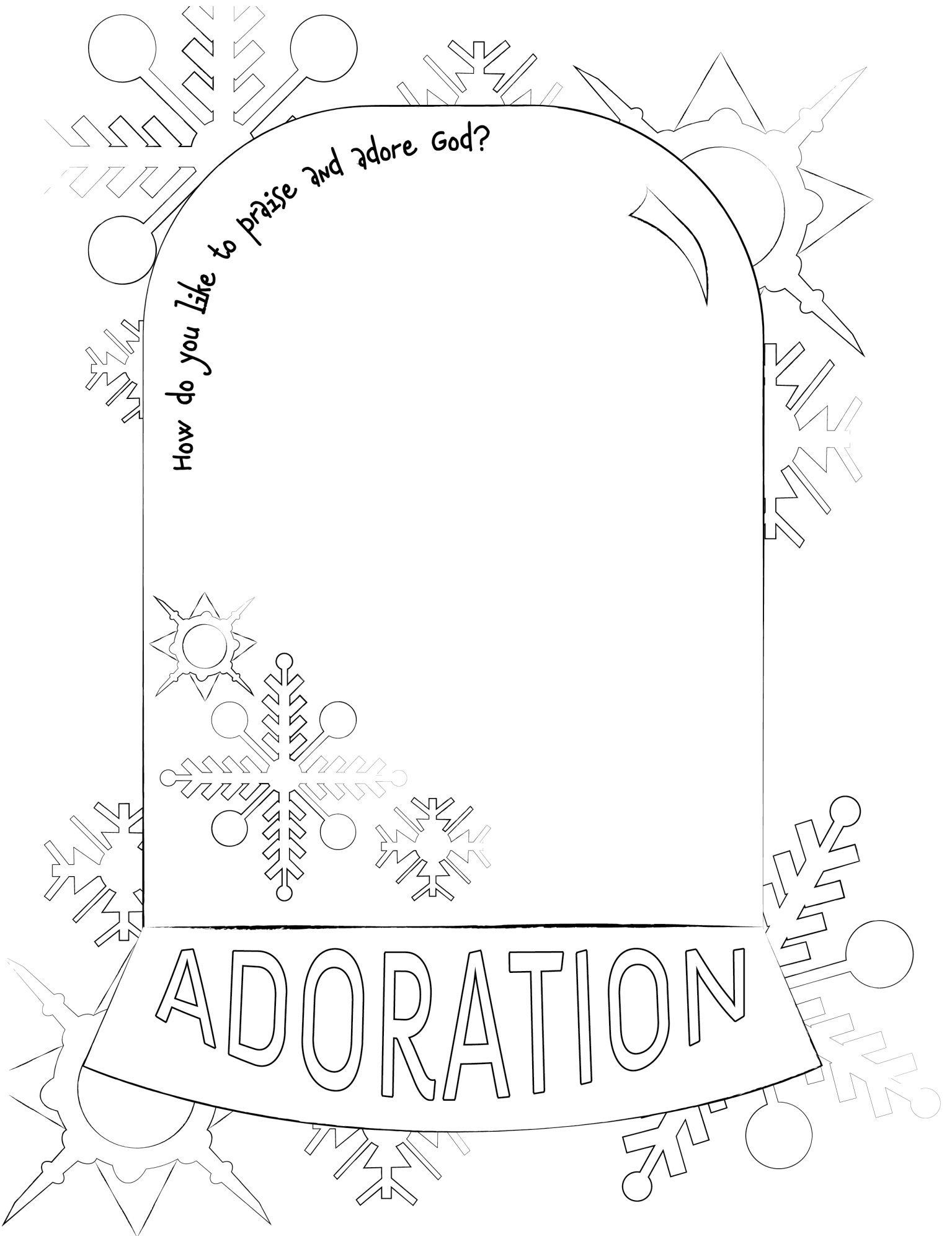
4. How can we practice adoring God together today?

5. What gifts can we give back to God?



How do you like to praise and adore God?

ADORATION





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