

Week 51

Day 1



Jehovah Rocks:

*I am happy to sit for a moment and think about You.
And I realize that You are my God and You have saved
me. Thank you! (Psalm 62:1)*

See It:

'The Lord himself will give you a miraculous sign. The virgin is going to have a baby. She will give birth to a son. And He will be called Immanuel!' (Isaiah 7:14)

On It:

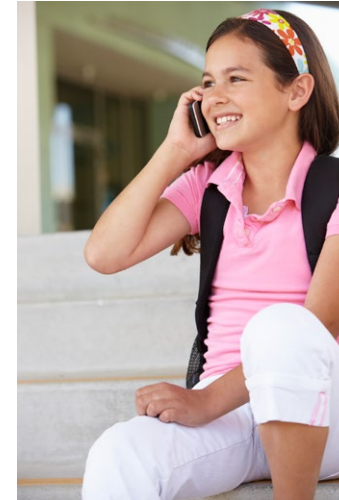
Christmas is all about Jesus! Did you know that? It is the day we celebrate His birthday! So even though there are lots of great Christmas carols – some of which we will teach you this week – you could properly sing Happy Birthday to Jesus on December 25. But this verse was written hundreds and hundreds of years before Jesus was born. And it accurately prophesies (though every single prophecy in the Bible comes true, so the fact that it is accurate should not surprise us!) that, for the ONLY TIME in all of history, a virgin is going to have a baby. That virgin was Mary. And that baby is Jesus! Hallelujah! Jesus was not just some guy who, one day, got tired of being a wood worker and decided that He'd try to save the world. God planned this all out long beforehand. Don't forget this as we celebrate with birthday cake this week!

Live It:

We have told you about 'Gifts of Hope' and 'Brighter Futures' before but here they are again in the week it counts the most! So, instead of some toy or game for your birthday, you can ask for support of a needy child overseas through 'Gifts of Hope' (salvationist.ca/world-missions/gifts-of-hope/).

Do It:

Phone your Corps Officer and ask if you can do an announcement about Gifts of Hope at the meeting.



In It:

Help me to remember the real reason of Christmas.

Eat It:

'We believe in the immortality of the soul, in the resurrection of the body, in the general judgement at the end of the world, at the eternal happiness of the righteous, and in the endless punishment of the wicked.' (Doctrine 11) Memorize this doctrine.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read 1 Peter 1-3 & John 1

Week 51

Day 2



Jehovah Rocks:

You are my rock and You are my salvation. You are my fortress and I cannot be shaken, because You are strong enough to keep my life together. (Psalm 62:2)

See It:

'A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And He will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace. The authority of His rule will continue to grow. The peace He brings will never end. He will rule on David's throne and over his kingdom. He will make the kingdom strong and secure. His rule will be based on what is fair and right. It will last forever. The Lord's great love will make sure that happens. He rules overall!' (Isaiah 9:6-7)

On It:

Sometimes parents who are expecting baby will send out a Facebook message to all their friends so that they know the happy couple is having a baby. A pregnancy takes about nine months and the couple usually waits for a few months before telling anyone, so it is usually less than six months before the birth occurs. But, like we noted yesterday, God sent out the Facebook message hundreds and hundreds of years before the baby was to be born! And He sent it to everyone that He wants to be His friend – that include you and us and everyone we know! But this is no ordinary baby. This baby has some nicknames. One of them is Mighty God! Another is Wonderful Advisor. A third is Father Who Lives Forever (it is catchier in Hebrew!). And a fourth is Prince Who Brings Peace (likewise). Jesus is not just a good guy. He is the Mighty God! Wow! And we are celebrating His birth this week! Hallelujah!

Live It:

If you get people to use Gifts of Hope instead of buying presents from the shops, you will start to see that the gift giving will keep going and going and will help so many people. Or you could buy a doll! Which would you prefer?

Do It:

Look salvationist.ca/world-missions/gifts-of-hope/ and find the Gifts of Hope page. Make up a flyer that explains clearly what people need to do to use Gifts of Hope. Get this flyer to your Corps Officer to copy and hand out at the Christmas meeting.



In It:

Jesus, thank You for being born!

Eat It:

 Doctrine 11

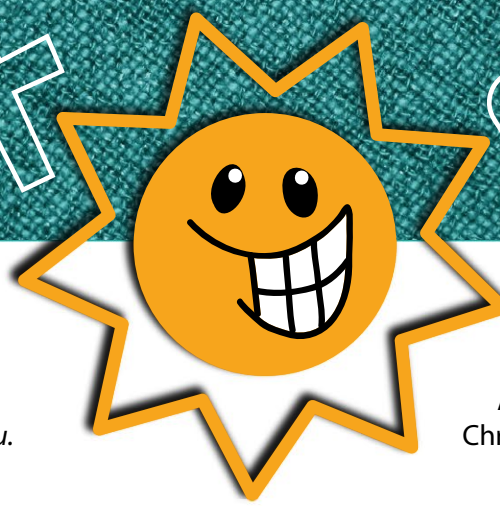
'Immortality of the soul.' This means that even after your body dies, your soul continues forever. 'Immortality' means that it won't die. The Bible implies this truth in lots of places.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read John 2-4

Week 51

Day 3



Jehovah Rocks:

All the hope that I have, all the good things that I have now and all the good things to come are from You.
(Psalm 62:5)

See It:

'The Lord says, "Bethlehem, you might not be an important town in the nation of Judah. But out of you will come a ruler over Israel for me. His family line goes back to the early years of your nation. It goes all the way back to days of long ago."' (Micah 5:2)

On It:

Jerusalem was the capital city. Everyone went there for holy days. The government was there. The Temple was there. Bethlehem was a tiny, insignificant town. And the Lord chose Bethlehem to be His birthplace. He is the only one in history to choose His own birthplace and He chose this town. Why is this important? Well, we are showing you that this whole Christmas thing wasn't just an accident or a creation of a bunch of people who wanted a day off in December or making recognition of a guy who tried hard to help people. No. It was planned by God way before it happened. The other thing we want you to note is that God sees things differently than most people do. Most people would have wanted to be born in the richest, nicest, biggest city with all the comforts of modern life. God chose to be born in a little town into a poor family without much going for it. Take note of that. It is not important if you were born rich or important. It is important for you to please Jesus with your whole life.

Live It:

Using Gifts of Hope will, 'Combat excessive buying that consumes our money and resources and leaves us bored and tired.' Just think how many toys you have that you never play with! Or how many clothes you have that you never wear! We don't need more!

Do It:

Ask your parents if they would be able to make part of your Christmas present a Gift of Hope item.



In It:

Please help people around the world who aren't getting presents and food this Christmas.

Eat It:

Doctrine 11
'Resurrection of the body.' This means that your body will be raised back to life after the judgement day. But it will be a spiritual body, and we believe that its weaknesses will be strengthened (so if you have only one hand, you will have two; if you are short-sighted, you will have 20/20 vision; and so on...).

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read John 5-6

Week 51

Day 4



Jehovah Rocks:

My whole life is here because of You. You keep me safe. (Psalm 62:7)

See It:

'In the sixth month after Elizabeth had become pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee. He was sent to a virgin. The girl was engaged to a fellow named Joseph. He came from the family line of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel greeted her and said, "The Lord has given you special favour. He is with you..." But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son. You must name Him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make Him a king like His father David of long ago. He will rule forever over His people, who came from Jacob's family. His kingdom will never end.'" (Luke 1:26-28; 30-33)

On It:

Have you ever seen an angel? Sometimes they come in disguise. But not this time. This was Gabriel, a mighty angel of God, who usually hangs around in God's presence, sent with this historic message for a teenaged girl named Mary. Gabriel explains this mystery to Mary, confirming what we read earlier this week from centuries earlier. Not only was her life about to flip upside down, from being a good girl to one who was slandered for being pregnant before getting married, but the boundless Creator of the Universe was going to do the ultimate shrinking act so that He could fit, as an unborn baby, in her womb! Wow. God is amazing.

Live It:

So, you use Gifts of Hope and you end up with a card, and someone else ends up with a present! What's the fun in that? Well, using Gifts of Hope means that someone somewhere who really needs food, or clothes or

books, will now have them... all thanks to you! Doesn't that sound great? The fun is in knowing that you have helped someone in need while you play with all the other toys you already had.

Do It:

Ask your brothers or sisters if they would ask your parents to make part of their Christmas present a Gifts of Hope item.



In It:

Help me to remember that giving is better than receiving.

Eat It: Doctrine 11

'General Judgement at the end of the world.' Everyone is going to be judged. We will be judged based on sin and works. If we have sin in our lives, we will get one verdict, if we lack sin, we will get a different verdict. And we will be judged on the things we did during our lives. Memorize this doctrine.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read John 7-8

Week 51

Day 5



Jehovah Rocks:

I trust You Yahweh. I love You and I give my life to You.
(Psalm 62:8)

See It:

'The star they had seen when they were in the east went ahead of them. It finally stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. The Wise Men went to the house. There they saw the child with His mother Mary. They bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures. They gave Him gold, incense and myrrh.' (Matthew 2:9b-11)

On It:

There were some scholars from another country, who, much earlier, had noticed a strange star in the sky. It had not been there before. So, they decided to study it and follow it. God had put the star in the sky to lead them to the birth of Jesus. This reading explains the last leg of their journey and the birthday presents they brought to Jesus. Before giving Him the presents, they bowed down and worshipped Him. That would be a strange sight, too – adult scholars kneeling in front of a BABY worshipping him! And the presents that they give were prophetic, too. Gold was the desired metal of royalty. Jesus is the King. Frankincense became symbolic of the name Yahweh (Malachi 1:11). Jesus is God. Myrrh was a key ingredient for holy anointing oil (Exodus 30:23), for embalming dead bodies (John 19:39). Jesus is the Messiah – the Anointed One – who was to die for us.

Live It:

Using Gifts of Hope will help people in developing world countries a chance to improve their lives.

Do It:

Choose a friend and ask them if they would ask their parent to make part of their Christmas present a Gifts of Hope item.



In It:

I love You, baby Jesus! I will worship You!

Eat It:

Doctrine 11
'Eternal happiness of the righteous.' Righteous people are those who live lives of integrity because Jesus has forgiven their sins and empowered them to live good lives. And all of us will go to Heaven forever. Hallelujah!

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read John 9-11

Week 51

Day 6



Jehovah Rocks:

Blessing and honour should go to You. You are the one who raises me. Thank You, Father. I love You.
(Psalm 68:39)

Do It:

Take some money you have saved and either give it to your parent to purchase something from Gifts of Hope or put it in a safe place to save up for an item on Gifts of Hope.

See It:

'When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. And she cried out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!"' (Luke 1:41-42)

On It:

Elizabeth was Mary's cousin. She was pregnant, too! And they greeted each other with an embrace. So, technically, Elizabeth was embracing Mary AND Jesus in her womb. And when Elizabeth embraced Jesus, her baby leapt in her womb AND Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit! And THEN she prophesied. Do you get that? When we EMBRACE Jesus, He will fill us with His Holy Spirit and we will act in supernatural ways (for Elizabeth it was prophecy; for you it could be that, and it could be a bunch of other Holy Spirit gifts and fruit). Christmas is the birth of Christ. And, when people first embrace Jesus, Christ is born in them (sort of) and they are born again. So, give Jesus a big hug today!

Live It:

Using Gifts of Hope will spread the real meaning of Jesus at Christmas time. Remember, 'Jesus is the reason for the season'.



In It:

Please take the money that we give You and send it to the right places.

Eat It: Doctrine 11

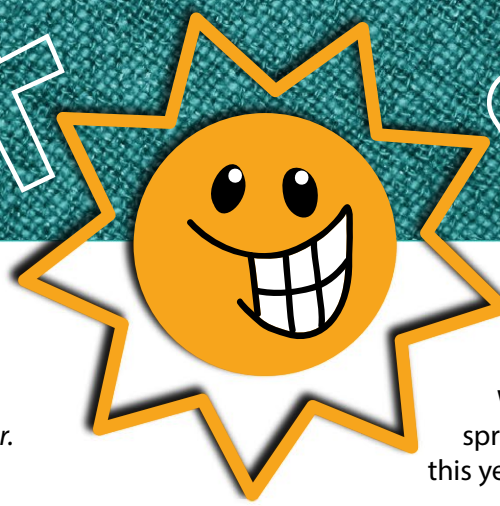
'Endless punishment of the wicked!' The people who still have sin in their lives are wicked. They refused to repent and believe Jesus. They refused to follow Jesus. And they are headed to endless punishment in hell.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read John 12-14

Week 51

Day 7



Jehovah Rocks

I love You, Yahweh. I love to be close to You. I love that You keep me safe and have saved me completely, forever.
(Psalm 69:18)

Live It:

We invite you to participate by buying Gifts of Hope and by spreading the word. Why not bring back the Spirit of Giving this year!

See It:

'There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby. It was night, and they were looking after their sheep. An angel of the Lord appeared to them. And the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy. It is for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord. Here is how you will know I am telling you the truth. You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger." Suddenly, a large group of angels from Heaven also appeared. They were praising God. They said, "May glory be given to God in the highest heaven! And may peace be given to those He is pleased with on earth!"' (Luke 2:8-14)

On It:

Have you ever been minding your own business when someone interrupts you? Maybe you are sitting in the park in the middle of the afternoon dividing blades of grass or counting clouds and then your friends sneak up behind you, and, suddenly, scream and pounce on you? That is shocking! But it is nothing compared to what a handful of unsuspecting shepherds in the hills on the outskirts of Bethlehem had coming to them one quiet night. Do you remember the Facebook announcement of the forthcoming birth? Well, it is typical for new parents to announce the actual birth in the same way. But God goes WAY OVER THE TOP with His birth announcements! Tonnes of angels appear in the sky and begin praising God!



Do It:

Spend some time reading over your memory verses and doctrines and books of the Bible! Next week is going to be a recall week!

In It:

Please bring peace to every country in the world.

Eat It:

'We believe in the immortality of the soul, in the resurrection of the body, in the general judgement at the end of the world, at the eternal happiness of the righteous, and in the endless punishment of the wicked.' (Doctrine 11) Recite this. Memorize it. Tell five friends.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read John 15-18