

MINISTRY MINUTE



OCTOBER 2023

CHRISTMAS FAMILY WORSHIP

Fall may have arrived, but Christmas is coming! This means Christmas outreach, toys, kettles, and worship need to be organized soon. We're thankful to Major Carson Decker and Orange for partnering with us so that we can encourage you to think about sharing the real meaning of Christmas with families. Here are a few ideas to help you include families in worship.



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

- 1. Host a Family Gathering with a podcast format.** Include hosts, special guests, music, game time, creative prayer, story time, etc. Theme suggestions: Unto Us; Light Show.
- 2. Include an Interactive Segment.** Suggestions include Readers Theatre, Flash Card Welcome, Object Lesson, Science Fun, The Big Word (Bible memory), Game Time (Screen Edition), Conversation Corner (interview 2-3 kids), Creative Prayer (Prayers in the Manger, Spinner Prayers), Story Time (Unwrap the Christmas Story, Noisy Christmas).
- 3. Stories of the Bible – Christmas Video Clips.** Available from www.saddlebackkids.com.
- 4. Christmas Eve Bingo.** Engage kids in your Christmas Eve gathering with Christmas Bingo cards. The idea is that as kids participate in the gathering or listen for certain words mentioned or highlighted on the screen, they get to cross out a box on their Bingo card. After the gathering, award a small treat to each kid for participating.
- 5. Scripture Collage.** Use this activity to highlight a Bible verse. This will require advance preparation by the kids – adding colouring, drawing, etc., to the Scripture cards.
- 6. Christmas Eve Praise Packs.** Handout goody bags with activities that help the kids engage and participate in the worship time.
- 7. Interactive Worship Stations.** Download the [Christmas Eve Family Worship.pdf](#). Note: There are nine station ideas included. Feel free to choose the ideas that will fit into the time frame you are working with.

Bonus Ideas:

1. Set-up a Hot Chocolate and Cookie Stand.
2. Rent a snow machine and use it during the finale.
3. Christmas Eve Take Home Bags. Could be as simple as a treat bag for kids with a Devotional/Story focus, or a Family Movie Night Bag (with popcorn, candy, movie – The Star, and discussion card).



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS TOGETHER

Orange has made their video, "The Christmas Story," available for you to share with families you connect with during the Christmas Season. Using the QR code, attached to the October Ministry Minute email, you can send families to our webpage that hosts this video and a family discussion/activity sheet that they can use as they consider the Christmas Story. Share this resource by adding the QR code to your Christmas newsletter, or a postcard (see postcard attached to MM email), or gift tag given out to families receiving toys or making donations to your kettles.

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JINGLE JAM EVENT KIT

This year host a Jam! The Orange Jingle Jam Event Kit includes the following to help you plan a memorable event for families in your community: Planning Files, Scripts, Games & Graphics, Promotional Materials, Production & Tech Files and so much more. You can download the kit for *FREE* here: ThinkOrange.com/jingle-jam-fx/. Your download will then be available on your ThinkOrange.com Account under “My Dashboard,” then look in “Other Downloads”.

