

The Colors of Christmas

Patsy Rowe



Preparation:

- Have several small Christmas trees, trimmed with tree lights and decorations corresponding to each color mentioned in the program.
- Words for various songs
- Ask several women to share a childhood memory of Christmas
- A few small prizes for game
- Have pen and paper for game
- Have Christmas cards and missionary addresses for mailing

Introduction: One of the joys of Christmas is the vast array of colors that help in the celebration of the season. Our program, the Colors of Christmas, helps us to put significance to the colors we see around us at Christmastime.

1. White Christmas – A Christmas of Nostalgia

A white Christmas signifies that snow has fallen and everything is covered with snow for Christmas Day. With climatic changes, in some regions, a white Christmas is becoming a memory of days gone by.

Sing along: Bing Crosby – *“White Christmas”*

Christmas Memories: Share a memory of Christmas as a kid; beforehand, ask several women to come prepared to share.

2. Blue Christmas - A Christmas of Grief

While Christmas is presented as a cheery time of the year, for some people it is exactly the opposite. It is a blue Christmas for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one; or if you are going through family struggles, financial struggles, health issues.

Sing along: Elvis Presley - **“Blue Christmas”**

The prophet Isaiah had a message for the Israelites who were in Babylonian captivity and were experiencing a time of hopelessness.

Read selected verses from Isaiah 40: 1, 2a, 25-31 (Good News Translation)

Chorus: *For they that wait upon the Lord*

Prayer:

3. Red Christmas – A Christmas of love

Sing along: *“I saw mommy kissing Santa Claus”*

One of the two most used colors for Christmas is the color red (the other is the color green). Red is the universal symbol of love; it is also the color of blood. A red Christmas is a reminder to us of the love of God that is expressed to us through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. I have heard it said that “Without Christmas there would be no Easter.” The two are linked together for they speak to us of God’s plan of redemption. Billy Graham was once asked, “Which is more important in your thinking, Christmas or Easter. Billy responded, “Both are equally important, because both are an essential part of God’s plan. Without Christmas, there would be no Easter – and without Easter, Christmas wouldn’t matter.” (© 2010 Billy Graham. Used with permission. All rights reserved.)

Poem: Where there is love

Helen Steiner Rice

Where there is love the heart is light,
Where there is love the day is bright,
Where there is love there is a song,
To help when things are going wrong,
To make all things seem more worthwhile,
Where there is love there's quiet peace,
A tranquil place where turmoils cease...
Love change's darkness into light,
And makes the heart take "wingless flight".
Oh, blest are they who walk in love...
They also walk with God above,
And when man walks with God again,
There shall be Peace On Earth for men.



4. Yellow Christmas – A Christmas of Friendship

What would the Christmas celebration be without friends? Yellow symbolizes friendship and the joy we share with our friends.

Game: How well do you know your friend?

Instructions: Chose a partner
Give each person a pen and paper, numbered 1 to 10
Without talking to each other, answer the following:

Age of your friend	Favorite food
Favorite movie	Dream vacation
Pet's name	Shoe size
Favorite color	Favorite television show
Favorite Christmas carol/song	Best Christmas experience

Read back each question and the friends are to check off how many they had right. The pair of friends with the most right, can be given a small prize

5. Orange Christmas – A Christmas of Desire

The color orange represents desire – the desire that all people around the world would know Christ and show concern for one another. While we may not be able to travel the world in the name of Christ, The Salvation Army Canada and Bermuda Territory has missionaries in many countries who desire to share the love of Christ with the people of that particular country.

Send Christmas Greetings:

Give out a Christmas card to each person along with the address of a missionary. Ask each lady to write a personal note of encouragement. Gather the cards and mail them the following day.

6. Green Christmas – A Christmas of Life

Sing along: “O Christmas tree”

Sometimes, when shopping for a Christmas tree, we find they are now available in various colors. However, in its natural state, the Christmas tree (fir tree) is green. The color green speaks to us of everlasting life. As Christians, we believe the hope of eternal life is found alone in Jesus Christ.

Scripture: John 3: 16-17

Poem:

	Omnipresent		Patsy Rowe
A void		A manger	
A world		A baby	
- God is present		- God is present	
	A cross		
	A man		
	- God is present		
In life		Acknowledge our sin	
In death		Believe in Jesus	
- God is present		Confess He is Lord	
		We are present...	
		Eternally... With Him	

Sing along: “Silent Night”

Prayer:

Sing along: “We wish you a Merry Christmas”

