

Christ

Keeping CHRIST in CHRISTMAS!

“C” is for Christ! *“For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”* (Luke 2:10) Christ is the reason for the season. Make much of **Christ** with **Candles** and **Carols**. The tradition of placing Christmas candles in windows dates from the beginning of Christianity. A large candle was lit on Christmas Eve, symbolizing Christ, the Light of the World. It burned throughout the night to mark the nativity — lighting the way for Mary and Joseph. Gather with family and friends by candlelight to sing traditional Christmas carols which are full of great meaning and the theology of Christ.

Hope



“H” is for Hope! Jesus is the fulfillment of our hope, our deepest longings come true. Make much of **Christ** and decorate your home with **Holly**. Holly symbolizes immortality. The prickly leaves represent the crown of thorns that Christ was made to wear. The red berries point to the shed blood of Jesus. Holly, like the Evergreen, stays green all year long pointing to new life and continued growth. No matter what your circumstances, you can always abound in hope by the power of the **Holy Spirit** as you believe! *Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.* (Romans 15:13)

Redeemer



“R” is for Redeemer! *“Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited and redeemed His people”* ... (Luke 1:68) Make much of **Christ** and **Rejoice** in God’s greatest gift! **Rejoice** in your deliverance from sin and death and bless the Lord. Take time to reflect and journal the way Christ has changed your life. What has He delivered you from this year? Set aside an evening of praise and worship. Invite your friends and share your testimonies! Celebrate His goodness to you with sparkling apple cider in beautiful glasses!

Immanuel



“I” is for Immanuel! *“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,”* which is translated, “God with us.” (Matthew 1:23) Make much of **Christ** and **Imagine** the night of Christ’s birth. Purchase or rent “The Nativity” and visually encounter the journey of Mary and Joseph. Serve up some popcorn and discuss the movie with your children or grandchildren. Enjoy the conversations and allow them to ask questions. In a season where many are alone, the truth of “Immanuel”, “God with us” comforts our hearts. **Invite** someone to church to be a part of celebrating “Immanuel”.

Salvation



“S” is for Salvation! *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”* (John 3:16) Make much of **Christ** and **Share** the gift of salvation with someone who needs the love of Jesus. Order **Special** covered Gospels of John from www.pocketpower.org to **Send** out with your Christmas cards.

Truth



“T” is for Truth! ... *“I am the way, the truth, and the life”* (John 14:6) Jesus is truth. Make much of **Christ** this Christmas and **Testify** of His **Truths** as you consider Scripture on your ornaments that are placed upon the tree, **Testify** of His truths on the top of a wrapped gift or baked good. **Tell** the Christmas story from the pages of Luke Chapter 2 and **Tell** everyone you know that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

Mercy



“M” is for Mercy! *“Through the tender mercy of our God, with which the Dayspring from on high has visited us; to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”* (Luke 1:78-79) **MERCY** is the theme of Christmas. God’s tender mercy broke upon our darkness as a great light. To have a true Merry Christmas we must first experience the mercy of God. Make much of **Christ** and be a **Messenger** of mercy this Christmas and feed the homeless, or visit the aged in a senior facility and **Model Christ’s Mercy** in a practical way.

Angels



“A” is for Angels! *“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God...”* (Luke 2:13) Angels **Announced** and **Attended** the birth of Christ. Make much of **Christ** and be a Christmas **Angel** and **Announce** your Christmas services to those you know who don’t go to church. **Attend** the service with your guests and **Ask** them to come over for fellowship afterwards.

Star of Bethlehem



“S” is for Star! ... *“Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”* (Matthew 2:2) As a star in the east guided the Wise Men to Christ, let the Christmas star guide you to Jesus. Wise men still **Seek** him. The **Savior** of the world still **Shines** for troubled souls and a troubled world. Make much of Christ and **Shine** brightly this Christmas and lead others to Christ.