

Christmas Season Devotionals

Week Four – Day 18

AWAY IN THE MANGER

"Away in a Manger" is a Christmas carol first published in the late nineteenth century and used widely throughout the English-speaking world. In Britain, it is one of the most beloved carols; a 1996 Gallup Poll ranked it joint second. The popularity of the carol has led to many variants in the lyrics. The two most-common musical compositions are by William J. Kirkpatrick (1895) and James Ramsey Murray (1887). (God Tube Staff, godtube.com)

Craft Idea: <https://www.craftymorning.com/baby-jesus-in-manger-fingerprint-craft/>

Video by Cedarmont Kids: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2ULTkNmIEY>

Away in a manger, no crib for
a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid
down His sweet head; the stars
in the heavens looked down
where He lay, the little Lord
Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the
Baby awakes, but little Lord
Jesus, no crying He makes. I
love Thee, Lord Jesus, look
down from the sky and stay by
my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask
Thee to stay close by me forever
and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy
tender care, and fit us for
heaven, to live with Thee there.

Questions/statements for individuals or families to respond to:

- What does this song tell you about Jesus? (Hint: consider humility)
- Why is it comforting to know that Jesus became human?
- "Be near me, Lord Jesus." Do you suppose God wants the same, to be near to you too?

Digging Deeper

1. Read Hebrews 4:14-15. How do you think Away In The Manger relate to this verse?
2. Read Hebrews 4:16. How do you see this verse tied in with the nearness of God in Christ?
3. Wanting to be near to God this time of the year can be wonderful and it can also be a challenge because of our life experiences. What are you wrestling with? Take time to release it to the One who understand you and loves you so deeply, and Who will never let you down.