

# Christmas Season Devotionals

## Week One – Day 1

### ***O Little Town of Bethlehem***

"On Christmas Eve in 1865, Phillips Brooks (1835-93) rode the perilous journey from Jerusalem to Bethlehem, to assist at the midnight service in the Church of the Nativity. Two years later, back in Massachusetts, he was inspired by the experience to write this carol for his Sunday school" at Holy Trinity Church in Philadelphia. (The Telegraph at telegraph.co.uk)

Craft Idea – A Little Light Shines Bright in a Dark World: <https://www.instructables.com/id/Transform-Your-Kids-Broken-Crayons-into-Candles/>

Video by Jeremy Camp: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=grKx1YSeLr0>

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie.  
Above thy deep and  
dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,  
And, gathered all above  
While mortals sleep,  
the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth.  
And praises sing to God the King.  
And peace to men on earth.  
Hallelujah to the Lord  
Hallelujah to the Lord

O Holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in;  
Be born in us today!  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel!  
Hallelujah to the Lord  
Hallelujah to the Lord

### Questions/statements for individuals or families to respond to:

- What words talk about Jesus in the song?
- Make a room as dark as you/your family desire to. Then, turn on a flashlight, pointing it toward the ceiling. Talk about how the littlest of light can brighten a dark space and compare that to Jesus coming into the world,
- Read Micah 5:2 and Luke 2:11. What do these verses tell you about who Jesus is?

### Digging Deeper

1. What does the phrase, "hopes and fears of all the years are met in Thee tonight," mean to you?
2. How do you see the effects of the cross in the song?
3. Read John 1:14; 15:1-8. Draw a conclusion about abiding.
4. What steps do you plan to take to commit even more to abiding in Christ?