

Christmas Season Devotionals

Week Two – Day 6

Do You Hear What I Hear?

"Noel and Gloria Regney wrote Do You Hear What I hear? Around October 1962. It's A timeless Christmas prayer for peace during the Cuban Missile Crisis in the Cold War. The Regneys usually collaborated using the exact opposite method – Gloria would write the words and Noel would write the music. This time they switched roles. Gloria Regney later said, 'Noel wrote a beautiful song and I wrote the music. We couldn't sing it through; it broke us up. We cried. Our little song broke us up. You must realize there was a threat of nuclear war at the time.'" (By Kathy Warners, historybecauseitshere.weebly.com)

Game Idea – Do You Hear What I Hear?" Game. Get 5 to 7 boxes and fill each one with different quantities of jingle bells. (You can get everything inexpensively at stores like The Dollar Tree.) Make a scorecard and each person needs to lift, shake and listen for the number of jingles bells in each box and then write that number down to see if they got it right.

Video by Bing Crosby: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cm8goTp16js>

Said the night wind to the little
lamb, do you see what I see
Way up in the sky, little lamb,
do you see what I see a star, a
star, dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite
With a tail as big as a kite

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty
king, do you know what I know
In your palace warm, mighty king,
do you know what I know a Child, a
Child shivers in the cold
Let us bring Him silver and gold
Let us bring Him silver and gold

Said the little lamb to the
shepherd boy, do you hear what
I hear ringing through the sky,
shepherd boy, do you hear what
I hear a song, a song, high
above the trees
With a voice as big as the sea
With a voice as big as the sea

Said the king to the people everywhere,
listen to what I say pray for peace,
people everywhere! listen to what I say
the Child, the Child, sleeping in the
night
He will bring us goodness and light
He will bring us goodness and light

Questions/statements for individuals or families to respond to:

- What can you see around you that makes you think about God?
- What have you *heard* from church, your parents, your friends about Jesus?
- What do you *know* about Jesus? (Read Isaiah 9:1-7 and Luke 19:10)

Digging Deeper

1. What does the goodness of God mean to you personally? (Consider: Exodus 34:6; Psalms 23:6; 145:5-9; James 1:17)
2. Darkness is all around us. It was in Noel Regney's day and it will be here long after us until Christ returns. But by contrast, make a list and dwell on where you see, hear and know about the light of the Lord that shines brightly.
3. Examine the following short list of references and determine how you are going to be a light in your circles of influence: Matthew 5:14-16; John 8:12; Ephesians 5:8; I Peter 2:9-12.