

## MUST KNOW BIBLE STORIES

## Health and Wellbeing topic: Positive Attitude

CHRISTMAS

These assembly scripts can work for one or two "hosts" – it is formatted so that you can either read the lines solo, or assign lines to two people... and feel free to reword the lines in ways that suit you. There are suggestions in blue dotted through the script of setting, tone and ways to film, <u>but these are only suggestions</u> – the most important things are that you are confident and relaxed as you film.

If you are having a hard time visualizing the script, please watch our video and read along to give you a clearer idea.



(Open the scene trimming a Christmas tree, either in your home or outdoors. If you have a co-host, one can be trimming the tree, and the other can be sitting, despondent)

Christmas just doesn't feel the same, I don't know... I'm just not getting to do everything I would usually do this year.

Well, that's true, but surely Christmas will still be really nice, even if it's different?

You know, there are different Christmas traditions and ways of celebrating all over the world. Other countries don't have pantos, or crackers, or even TURKEY! I mean in Australia, Christmas is in the middle of the summer!

We might have a hard time imagining Christmas at the beach, but in Australia that's still Christmas and they still have a wonderful time!

So lets have a think about what's at the heart of Christmas... for you! What are the top five things that make Christmas special? What five things do you need for Christmas to be Christmas?

*(To the children)* Why don't you think of/write your own list while I make mine... what's your Christmas top five? And if your family doesn't celebrate Christmas, write the top five things you and your family enjoy about the holidays.

(Pause for the children to write their Christmas top five)



Here's my/our Christmas top five. (If you wanted to have some fun with this, you could present it like a Radio Top Ten with a dramatic voice)

Alright number five for me is the turkey dinner. It just doesn't feel like real Christmas at all without a turkey dinner!

Good one! Number four I decided was the tree. Big, small, inside, outside, fake, real... it doesn't matter... I want to see a decorated TREE at Christmas.

Number three obviously has to be presents. I don't need lots and lots of presents, or big, expensive presents... but everyone surely wants to have a couple presents to open on Christmas morning.

For number two, being with family and people I love at Christmas. I wouldn't ever want to spend Christmas alone, and I always try to do something for people who are spending Christmas alone.

And that brings us to number one... celebrating Jesus. As a Christian and I could never go a Christmas without telling Jesus' story and remembering how He was born.

Which is what I'm going to do right now! Jesus' birth is probably THE most famous Bible story of them all, but I never get tired of hearing it.



**Bible Story: Jesus' Birth/ Luke 2:1-7** – tell the Bible story in a creative way: with a children's storybook bible, using pictures or graphics, drawing the story with a voiceover, acting it out, or why not use your home nativity set with a voiceover! You could read directly from the gospel of Luke or retell the Nativity account in your own words. Whatever you do, make it dynamic, and try to tell the story in under five minutes. Feel free to cut and use our storytelling clip if you like it.



You know, I've heard this story hundreds of times, but I think I learned something new from it today.

I never thought about how happy and joyful everyone in the story is. Mary and Joseph with the new baby, the angels singing, shepherds rushing into Bethlehem so excited... and they didn't have any of what I have at Christmas.

...no turkey... no tree... I suppose Jesus does get presents from the wise men... though that happens a little later.

Mary, Joseph and Jesus didn't even have a bed to sleep in. They were in a smelly stable! But they were still so thankful to God and full of happiness at the first Christmas . They all were a part of the amazing new thing God was doing – sending His son Jesus to earth as a baby.

This Christmas may feel a bit different for all of us, but rather than be sad, I'm going to make the most of everything <u>I do</u> get to do and all the fun <u>I do</u> get to have... because maybe things aren't really all that bad after all, when you think about it.

## **Challenge Activity**

(For our video we made a pantomime reference here (Oh yes you can! Oh no you can't!), as well as telling a Christmas cracker joke. We'd encourage you to use your own humour here... tell a joke, reference a pantomime or even dress up like you're in one for this final scene!)

For our challenge this week, why not think of a Christmas tradition that you can introduce this year? That will help you focus on the fun things you can do, rather than the things you can't.

For example, even though we can't go to the Pantomime this year... why not write your own? You can get your friends or your siblings to perform one with you. Or you could even have a zoom pantomime that's all online!

Or, although we can't go to the Christmas market, why not make some of your own Christmas ornaments and crafts... you could even try selling them to your family and neighbours. You could make your own Christmas crackers and put your own jokes inside!

And as a final challenge: if you never have, why not read the nativity story for yourself this year? It's in the Bible in Luke, chapter two!

Hope you all have a Merrrrrry Christmas!

