

# Leaders Guide Page One

## "Before the Party Starts"

**Step one Pray.** Pray that God touch your hearts with love for each child he sends. Pray for just the right people to help with the party...don't overlook the teens and pre teens in your church. Prayer should be the foundation of this very special event. Pray about the date and location of the Party. Pray with your pastor and other teachers. Pray especially about the goal of the party...what you and God hope to see happen.

**Step two.** Print enough cards and ornaments for the children you expect. Normal copy paper will work but heavier (32-70 pound) paper is sturdier. A good starting place is to print two cards and eight ornaments for each child (more if you have time). You may wish to print extra cards or ornaments for the children to take home. Both cards and ornaments can be found on the menu bar at [www.bibleparent.com/holidays](http://www.bibleparent.com/holidays). Remember to get enough envelopes (6"x9") for each child. They will use the envelope to send the ornaments to friends and family.

**Step three.** Round up enough child safe scissors and at least one glue stick for each child. You will also need 3-4 hole punches and a ball of yarn.

**Step four.** Visit local merchants for donations: Cocoa, Milk, Cookies etc.

**Step five.** Share the time and date of the party with the children in your class. Ask them to invite their friends. A week ahead of time consider handing out three preprinted invitations to each child in the class so they can bring three friends. Highly motivated teachers might try getting a notice in your local Newspaper or your local Christian Radio Station.

**Step five.** Review the next page. "Things to do at the party".

# Leader's Guide...The Party Itself

**Step one Pray.** Lead the children in prayer that God would make it a special time with him and with each other. Everything goes better with God.

**Step two.** Read Matthew 1:23. *“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel”* (which means, God with us). And that is why we are having a party... it's a Birthday party. One of the parts of our party will be making Christmas Ornaments with some of the baby's names. Most of you know three of the baby's names...Jesus, Immanuel and Christ. If you want to know more about the birthday boy learning more of the names God gives him is a good starting place. Each of Jesus names is important but the most important is "Son of God".

A second verse you might read is : *Isaiah 9:6-7 (6) For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace*

**Step three (Optional).** It is probably a good idea to make the "Names of Christ" ornaments or cards at this point while the lesson is still fresh in the children's minds, break for cookies and start a second ornament making session for "The gifts Jesus brought to earth."

**Step four.** After the break read Matthew 2:9-11. *After they had heard the king, they (the wise men) went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.*

**Lesson Thought** (We offer these words as a guide...feel quite free to use your own words): Most people know that the wise men brought gifts to Jesus. What is more important is the gifts Jesus brought to us. When Jesus came from earth to heaven he brought with him the Joy of Salvation, Mercy, Forgiveness, Love, fellowship with God and many more wonderful gifts. The thing that makes Jesus gifts special is that most of them are invisible. We can't see them with our eyes...only with our hearts. We can see them in the hearts of other Christians and if we ask in our own hearts. We hope putting these ornaments on your tree will remind you to ask. We hope also you will share the ornaments and all Jesus many gifts with others.

**Step five.** Help each child make a second set of ornaments.

**Step six: Pass out a special invitation to visit your Sunday School class. Be sure and give the times and if possible OFFER to arrange transportation...possibly with another child in your class. Make sure the children give the invitation to their parents. If possible give it to them directly. If you are looking for the gifts Jesus gives, a Church is a good place to start. You may even wish to offer an invitation to receive Christ...for Jesus to come into your heart and bring his gifts with him.**

**Step Seven:** Have a practice party for helpers and volunteers. It will make the actual party go much better and give God's Holy Spirit a chance to move more freely.