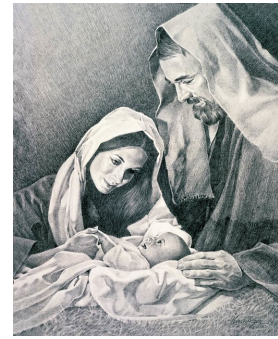


Adore



SAY Jesus is the Light of the World, the Prince of Peace, the Joy of our Salvation, and the demonstration of God's love. That is why we celebrate this coming on this Christmas day and offer him our deepest adoration.

ASK What does it mean to adore something?

EXPLAIN To adore is to give honor and worship. It's to love deeply. It's to cherish above all else.

LIGHT all five candles of your wreath.

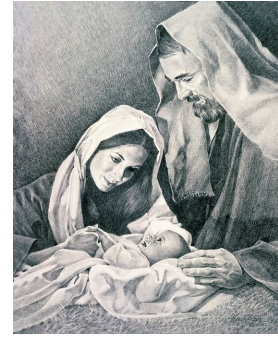
SAY These candles represent hope, peace, joy, love, and the birth of Jesus. As we light them, we thank God for these great gifts.

READ & DISCUSS Luke 2:1-10

PRAY O Lord, our God, thank you for sending Jesus. He is a gift beyond our wildest imagination. Through him we have light and life, hope and peace, joy and love. We are grateful, Lord, for your great love. May we carry your hope, peace, joy, and love with us as we work and wait for you to come again. We love you. Amen.

FURTHER DISCUSSION How can we show Jesus how much we adore Him? What are some ways we can share the "Christmas spirit" all year long?

Adore



Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph went to Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people. To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another "Let us go not to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made know to us." So, they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.