

Group Christmas Party | 12.11.24

LARGE GROUP

We'll play one quick game of **Frosting The Snowman** together before we dismiss you to groups to celebrate together! Choose one volunteer from each group. The rest of the group will take icing and other supplies given and turn the volunteers face into Frosty the Snowman.

SMALL GROUP TIME

White Elephant Exchange

Have everyone draw a number (from 1 to the number of people in the gift exchange). Place all of the gifts in a pile (or around some sort of fake tree – try drawing and decorating one on the board if you have one. The person with the number 1 starts by choosing a gift (usually they are wrapped). They then open their gift. Then person number 2 gets to either choose a new gift or steal the gift from person number 1. If they steal someone else's gift, that person gets to choose a new gift (from the pile/tree) or steal from someone else any gift hasn't been stolen that round. This continues on through all of the numbers with each person either choosing a new gift or stealing one from anyone who went before them. Also, we usually make a rule that no gift can be stolen more than 3 times.

• White Elephant with a Twist - Do it as described above but instead of each person getting an option of stealing or choosing a new gift, it is decided by the roll of dice (If you plan to do this option, let us know and we can get you dice). For example, odds means steal a gift, even means choose a new one. You can also throw in other options like "your gift will be chosen by the person who went before you" or "trade numbers (turns) with someone else in the group." If you don't have dice, have them flip a coin or random object you find or make little slips for each option and have them pick from a hat.

OTHER IDEAS

Dueling Christmas Carols – Split into teams and give each 5 minutes to come up with as many Christmas carols as they can. After time is called, each group will take turns singing part of a Christmas carol on their list. If other teams have the same songs, those teams raise their hands and mark off the song from their list. They'll receive a point for each group who had that song, so the more other groups list it, the more points it is worth.

Christmas Fishbowl – Have everyone write Christmas-themed words or phrases on slips of paper and add them to the "fishbowl" (any bowl/cup will do). Divide into 2 teams to play three rounds: 1) Taboo: Describe the word or phrase without saying it. 2) Charades: Act out the word without speaking. 3) Password: Give a one-word clue for the word. Each player has one minute to give clues, and teams guess as many words as possible during their turn. The same words are used in all rounds.

Christmas Gift Hot Potato: Wrap a small gift and pass it around while Christmas music plays. When the music stops, the person holding the gift opens a layer of wrapping paper (or unwraps some saran wrap). The final person to unwrap wins.

Christmas Activity Sheets – If you want some for your group, let us know so we can have plenty printed for you.

- Christmas Tree Gifts Give them pens to complete the Christmas Tree Activity together.
- Christmas Quizzes There are a variety of fun options we'll have available. Choose one to do with your group.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – make sure students know <u>before you dismiss</u> for the night!

- Silent Night Silent Disco THIS SUNDAY (12/15), we're challenging everyone to invite friends!
- Dodgeball Tournament Our next night of groups will be 1/8/25. Encourage everyone to wear your group color!

Cheater's Christmas Quiz:

1. Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen, Rudolph

2. The traffic cop

3. The North Pole

4. Elves

5. Foggy

6. Holly

7. "That old silk hat"

8. Poker

9. "To hear sleigh bells in the snow"

10. Bobtail (as in "bells on Bobtail ring...")

Bible Christmas Quiz:

1. a

2. d (The Bible never says.)

3. c

4. d ("Wise men" did, the Bible says.)

5. d (The Bible says nothing about the angels singing anything-

though they said, "Glory to God in the highest...")

6. d (They came to Jesus' house, not his manger.)

7. c

8. c 9. b

10. a

Christmas IQ Test – This is a fun way to quiz kids on what really happened on the first Christmas.

1. False. Not until the 4th century did it settle on the 25th. Other dates were accepted before then.

2. A. See Luke 2:3, 4.

3. F. The Bible doesn't say.

4. False. See Matthew 1:18.

5. False. See Luke 2:5.

6. True. See Matthew 1:25.

7. E. No word about the innkeeper. See Luke 2:7.

8. E. No word about it. See Luke 2:7.

9. C.

10. F. The Bible doesn't specify.

11. E. The wise men did (they were not kings). See Matthew 2:2.

12. A. See Luke 2:9.

13. F. See Luke 2:12.

14. D. See Luke 2:14.

15. E. Definition is an "army." See Living Bible also.

16. D. Mt. Hermon is snow covered.

17. C. We have no reason to believe he wouldn't.

18. C. By definition.

19. B. See John 19:39 or a dictionary.

20. No one knows. See Matthew 2:1.

21. C. See most any commentary. They were astrologers or "star gazers."

22. C. See Matthew 2:11.

23. B. See Matthew 2:1-2.

24. G. Mark begins with John the Baptist, John with "the Word."

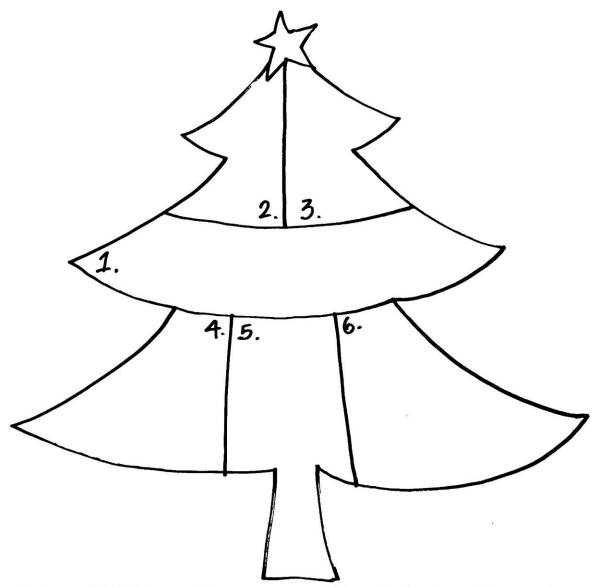
25. F. See Matthew 1:19, Luke 1:39, 56.

26. D. See Luke 2:1, 4.

27. D. See Matthew 2:13.

28. D. of course.

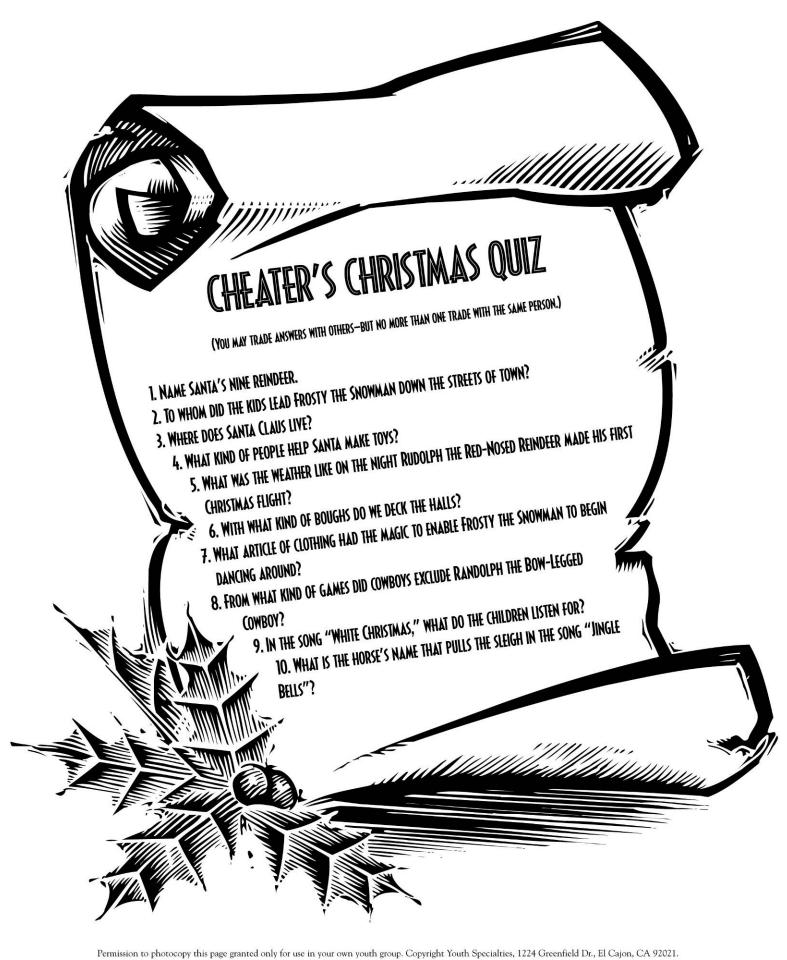
CHRISTMAS TREE GIFTS



- 1. On the space labled "1", write a Christmas message that you would like to give to the world.
- 2. In space two, draw the best gift you ever got at Christmas—something so special that it is a high point in your Christmas memories.
- 3. Next draw the gift that you would like to receive this Christmas more than anything else. You don't have to be realistic here—it can be anything.
- 4. Draw a gift that you gave to someone else that was especially appropriate and appreciated.
- 5. Draw the gift you would bring to the manger.

- (Remember the wise men?) Let your gift say something about how you see Christ and your relationship to him.
- 6. In the sixth space symbolize some of the gifts God has given you.
- 7. At the base of the tree, write out some of the feelings that this exercise may have stirred up. What is the purpose of giving? Why do we give at Christmas? Do you feel uncomfortable about some of the drawings you have made? Do you feel pride? Thanksgiving?

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Do you know what the Bible actually says about Christmas? Check your Nativity I.Q. by taking this quiz individually. Circle the letter of the correct response.

1. Joseph was from

- a. Bethlehem
- b. Nazareth
- c. Jerusalem
- d. Egypt

2. How did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem?

- a. camel
- b. donkey

- c. Chevy truck
- d. don't know

3. A manger is a

- a. barn
- b. stable
- c. feed trough
- d. disease dogs catch

4. Who saw the "star in the East"?

- a. shepherds
- b. three kings
- c. Brad Pitt
- d. none of these

5. What did the angels sing?

- a. "Glory to God in the highest..."
- b. "For unto us a child is born..."
- c. "Glory to the newborn King..."
- d. none of these

6. How many wise men came to see Jesus in the manger?

- a. 3
- b. 2
- c. 1
- d. 0

7. Who told Mary and Joseph to go to Bethlehem?

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- a. the angel
- b. God
- c. Caesar Augustus
- d. King Herod

8. Why did Joseph take Jesus to Egypt?

- a. To show him the pyramids
- b. To be taxed
- c. Because he dreamed about it
- d. He never took Jesus there

9. What is frankincense?

- a. an oriental monster
- b. a precious perfume
- c. a precious fabric
- d. a precious metal
- u. u precious ilieiui

10. What is myrrh?

- a. a spice used in burials
- b. a soft metal
- c. an aftershave lotion
- d. a drink

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Christmas I.Q. Test

Read and answer each question in the order it appears. Circle the letter of the correct answer (or the word True or False). Guessing is permitted, cheating is not.

1. As long as Christmas has been celebrated, it has been on December 25th. (True or False)

2. Joseph was from...

- a. Bethlehem.
- b. Jerusalem.
- c. Nazareth.
- d. Egypt.
- e. Minnesota.
- f. None of the above.

3. How did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem?

- a. Camel
- b. Donkey
- c. Walked
- d. Volkswagen
- e. Joseph walked, Mary rode a donkey
- f. Who knows?

4. Mary and Joseph were married when Mary become pregnant. (True or False)

5. Mary and Joseph were married when Jesus was born. (True or False)

6. Mary was a virgin when she delivered Jesus. (True or False)

7. What did the innkeeper tell Mary and Joseph?

- a. "There is no room at the inn."
- b. "I have a stable you can use."
- c. "Come back after the Christmas rush and I should have some vacancies."
- d. Both A and B.
- e. None of the above.

8. Jesus was delivered in a...

- a. Stable.
- b. Manger.
- c. Cave.
- d. Barn.
- e. Unknown.

9. A manger is a...

- a. Stable for domestic animals.
- b. Wooden hay storage bin.
- c. Feeding trough.
- d. Barn.

10. Which animals does the Bible say were present at Jesus' birth?

- a. Cows, sheep, goats
- b. Cows, donkeys, sheep
- c. Sheep and goats only
- d. Miscellaneous barnyard animals
- e. Lions, tigers, elephants
- f. None of the above

11. Who saw the "star in the east"?

- a. Shepherds
- b. Mary and Joseph
- c. Three kings
- d. Both A and C
- e. None of the above

12. How many angels spoke to the shepherds?

- a. One
- b. Three
- c. A "multitude"
- d. None of the above

13. What "sign" did the angels tell the shepherds to look for?

- a. "This way to baby Jesus."
- b. A star over Bethlehem
- c. A baby that doesn't cry
- d. A house with a Christmas tree
- e. A baby in a stable
- f. None of the above

14. What did the angels say?

- a. "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come"
- b. "Alleluia"
- c. "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given"
- d. "Glory to God in the highest, etc."
- e. "Glory to the Newborn King"
- f. "My Sweet Lord"

15. What is a "heavenly host"?

- a. The angel at the gate of heaven
- b. The angel who invites people to heaven
- c. The angel who serves drinks in heaven
- d. An angel choir
- e. An angel army
- f. None of the above

16. There was snow that first Christmas...

- a. Only in Bethlehem.
- b. All over Israel.
- c. Nowhere in Israel.
- d. Somewhere in Israel.
- e. Mary and Joseph only "dreamed" of a white Christmas.

17. The baby Jesus cried...

- a. When the doctor slapped him on his behind.
- b. When the little drummer boy started banging on his
- c. Just like other babies cry.
- d. He never cried.

18. What is frankincense?

- a. A precious metal
- b. A precious fabric
- c. A precious perfume
- d. An eastern monster story
- e. None of the above

19. What is myrrh?

- a. An easily shaped metal
- b. A spice used for burying people
- c. A drink
- d. After-shave lotion
- e. None of the above

20. How many wise men came to see Jesus? (Write in the correct number.)

21. What does "wise men" refer to?

- a. Men of the educated class
- b. They were eastern kings
- c. They were astrologers
- d. They were smart enough to follow the star
- e. They were "sages"

22. The wise men found Jesus in a...

- a. Manger.
- b. Stable.
- c. House.
- d. Holiday Inn.
- e. Good mood.

23. The wise men stopped in Jerusalem...

- a. To inform Herod about Jesus.
- b. To find out where Jesus was.
- c. To ask about the star that they saw.
- d. For gas.
- e. To buy presents for Jesus.

24. Where do we find the Christmas story in order to check up on all these ridiculous questions?

- a. Matthew
- b. Mark
- c. Luke
- d. John
- e. All of the above
- f. Only A and B
- g. Only A and C
- h. Only A, B, and C
- i. Only X, Y, and Z
- j. Aesops Fables

25. When Joseph and Mary found out that Mary was pregnant with Jesus, what happened?

- a. They got married.
- b. Joseph wanted to break the engagement.
- c. Mary left town for three months.
- d. An angel told them to go to Bethlehem.
- e. Both A and D
- f. Both B and C

26. Who told Mary and Joseph to go to Bethlehem?

- a. The angel
- b. Mary's mother
- c. Herod
- d. Caesar Augustus
- e. Alexander the Great
- f. No one told them to

27. Joseph took the baby Jesus to Egypt...

- a. To show him the pyramids.
- b. To teach him the wisdom of the pharaohs.
- c. To put him in a basket in the reeds by the river.
- d. Because he dreamed about it.
- e. To be taxed.
- f. Joseph did not take Jesus to Egypt.
- a. None of the above.

28. I think this test was...

- a. Super.
- b. Great.
- c. Fantastic.
- d. All of the above.