

# BEST CHRISTMAS EVER, week two

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## PARENT PREP



Click the picture to play week two lesson

### BOTTOM LINE

God is with us.

### SCRIPTURE

...pledged to be married (Matthew 1:18b NIV).

*"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said*

*through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us") (Matthew 1:21-23 NIV).*

### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To show students that God came to Earth to be with us, and that they can find ways to be with Him during the Christmas season.

### THINK ABOUT THIS

The idea that God is actually *with* us may bring up a lot of questions. Things are so much about feelings in this phase. Whatever middle schoolers feel is true, they believe to be fact. So, when they don't feel like God is with them, they struggle to see how it could possibly be true that He is!

*This guide below is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. If you have any questions or problem don't hesitate [email](#) Shane.*

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## DURING GROUP

### PLAY THIS

Gargle Sing-A-Long: Compete with or against each other to guess what each other are singing. Sounds easy! The catch? You will be singing while gargling water (keep a towel handy)! Instructions are provided on the next page.

### DISCUSS THIS

**Pause the video at (4:30), discuss this question:**

1. In a sentence or two, describe your best Christmas ever.

**Pause the video at (5:11), discuss this question:**

2. If you were God and had control over everything, what's the first thing you'd make happen?

**Pause the video at (12:02), discuss these questions:**

3. Have you ever thought the way God feels about you changes based on what you do or don't do? Tell us about it?
4. Why do you think God wants to be *with* us?

### DO THIS (EXPERIENCE)

Have a Gingerbread House decorating contest! Start by saying something like, "Okay, we're going to decorate gingerbread houses while we keep talking today. So, let's have some fun and a great conversation at the same time! Deal?"

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# Christmas Gargle Sing-Along

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## OVERVIEW

Players will compete to guess what is being sung. The catch? Your family member will be 'singing' while gargling water!

## WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- 1 cup of water for each singer
- Pre-selected Christmas song titles

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## HOW-TO

### PREP

- Select the Christmas song titles you want your singers to gargle and write each title on an index card.
- Pour individual cups of water for each singer to use to gargle during their round.

### PLAY

1. Select the first "singer" for this game.
2. Give them a cup of water to gargle during their round.

3. Give the singer an index card with the name of one of the pre-selected Christmas song titles on it.
  4. The singer will take a sip of water and gargle the tune of the song on the index card (and try to sing it!) as best they can.
  5. The first person in the group to guess the name of the song that the singer is gargling by shouting it out gets a point!
  6. Select a new singer for the next round and continue until you've run out of songs to use.
  7. The person with the most points at the end of the game wins!
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