



Christmas

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF A KING

The Christmas Bible Quiz

1. Who told Mary and Joseph to go to Bethlehem? (Luke 2:1)

#1 Answer: Caesar Augustus. He ordered the people to go back to the city of their forefathers. Joseph's family was from Bethlehem. Luke 2:1.

2. What does Immanuel mean?

#2 Answer: God with us
See Matthew 1:23.

3. How much younger was Jesus than his cousin John the Baptist?

#3 Answer: Six months
See Luke 1:36. John's mother was Elizabeth, whom Mary visited while she was pregnant with Christ.

4. Why was Jesus born in Bethlehem, according to the Gospel of Luke?

#4 Answer: His earthly father Joseph went to Bethlehem for a census
See Luke 2:1-6.

5. Christ was laid in a manger. What is a manger?

#5 Answer: A feeding trough
A manger is a feeding trough for animals, which Mary used as a cradle.

6. How do the shepherds learn of Christ's birth?

#6 Answer: An angel appears to them
See Luke 2:8-9.

7. When the shepherds went looking for Jesus, what was the sign they were to look for?

#7 Answer: A baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
Luke 2:12.

8. How many magi visit Christ after his birth, according to the Bible?

#8 Answer: An undisclosed number
Tradition has numbered the magi at three, probably because three gifts were given (gold, frankincense, and myrrh.) Tradition has even given names to the wise men-- Melchior, Kaspar, and Baltazar. However, the Bible itself does not disclose the number of magi who visited Christ.

9. Where is Christ when the magi come to visit Him?

#9 Answer: In a house
Though our traditional manger scenes usually place the magi at the manger, they did not, in fact, visit Christ until he was a "young child" and came to him in a house. (See Matthew 2:11.)

10. Who sent Jesus to this World and What was His Reason?

#10 Answer: John 3:16
For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

The Christmas Challenge

I grew up in a family that really celebrated Christmas. In fact I tell people that Macy's and Dillard's would come see what my dad was doing so they could copy him. So, just to be clear, I really love Christmas. But something happened this year that took me aback. I walked into a mega-store looking for Christmas decorations. I noticed that this huge warehouse of Christmas decorations had allotted half of a shelf for about 14 items that actually related to Jesus' birth. I think that sometimes we forget the reason for celebrating Christmas. So here's the challenge. What can we do about it? While there is a lot of fun stuff we traditionally do, we must make the time to share the beautiful account of our Great Savior's birth. The stage that the Scriptures set is dramatic. Beyond that it is the account of our Father in heaven and His love for us. So much so that He willingly sent His Son Jesus to take the form of a man to redeem us. This great biblical account of compassion is what Christmas is all about. It records God living among us as an infant, child, adult and redeemer. Our children must know this awesome story before the traditional fun antics of Rudolf, Frostie, or Santa. Jesus' earthly ministry begins with His birth making Him the reason for the season.

Collins

Garden



blessingscommunitychurch.org
jesse@blessingscommunitychurch.org

