



Inspire

Welcome Home

Christmas Bible Study

Jesus Dwelt Among Us

Our house has two living rooms—the fancy one, we call the formal room, which usually sits clean and pristine and is used when guests come over for a visit. The other living room—the family room—is the room we really live in. Life happens in this room—family movie nights with popcorn, camp outs with homemade tents, and other memories. It is the room where we are our genuine selves.

Christmas is the time where we celebrate the fact that Jesus, the Son of God, did not come to earth to visit us in the formal room, but He came to dwell among us. He lived with us. **Read John 1:14, 18.** Jesus is the Word, and He became flesh—He was fully human but He was also God. **Read Colossians 2:9.** In Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form., Jesus came with flesh on to make God known or visible to us.

When the Angel Gabriel appeared to Joseph, Joseph was told that Mary was going to have a son, and was even told what to name that son. **Read Matthew 1:21-23.** In these verses we read of Jesus' purpose in coming—to *save his people from their sins*. And we are clearly told He will be "*God with us.*"

Jesus grew in his mother Mary's womb. **Read Luke 1:26-38.** Jesus was born like any other baby. **Read Luke 2:1-7.** He grew as any other human child would. **Read Luke 2:40-52.**

Jesus gave up all the wonders of heaven and came to earth to live, limited in human form, all for us. **Read Philippians 2:5-11.** Why would He do this? **Read Hebrews 2:14-18.** God planned for Jesus to be our Savior before the creation of the world. **Read 1 Peter 1:18-20.** Before sin was ever a picture, God knew we would need a Savior, so Jesus becoming flesh was always part of is plan.

For 30 years, Jesus lived a normal human life, and then He had a public ministry for 3 years, which ended in His death on the cross and resurrection from the dead. But He fulfilled what God had sent Him to do. **Read John 3:16-17.** Now that is a great Christmas gift!

Close your time of Bible Study by singing the carol "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" noting especially the 2nd verse (#108 in The Salvation Army Songbook).

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- John 1:14 -



INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS from the Territory

Albany, OR the ladies, after learning about David & Goliath, took 5 stones and wrote words of hope and power on them and then were encouraged to put the rocks where they could be reminded that the Lord slays the giants in our lives.

Boise, ID painted rocks with designs and had the corps information on the back of the rocks. The ladies took the rocks home and scattered them in their neighborhoods.

Cathedral City, CA made little houses with candy and delivered them to the local police department.

Coos Bay, OR held a baby shower for one of the Baby Closets in the community.

El Cajon, CA held their first tea party, "You and Me, Time for Tea;" the event message was on the power of another, and the importance of encouragement.

Hemet, CA have had several women start Family Bible studies in their homes.

Inglewood, CA started a twice a month fitness class that meets before Home League.

Kake, AK watched the film "Hidden Figures."



Check our out website: <https://usw-womensministries.org/12-days-of-the-nativity-study/> . for a 12-days of the Nativity Bible study to be used to help you to Linger at the Manger during this busy season.

Commissioner Jolene K. Hodder—Territorial President of Women's Ministries

Colonel Colleen R. Riley—Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries

Major Beth Desplancke—Territorial Women's Ministries Program Secretary

Be sure to check out our website for more resources: <https://usw-womensministries.org/>

Education

Living Room Cleaning Hacks

One of the first rooms people see when they enter your home and where a lot of life takes place is the living room. Here are some quick and easy tips to give your living room a lift and prepare it for all the upcoming fun holiday events in your home.

- Deodorize your carpet. Even if you shampoo your carpet, it can easily get a foul odor. A quick and easy solution is to sprinkle a generous amount of baking soda on it, leave for an hour, and then vacuum. The baking soda will absorb odors instead of just covering them up.
- Clean your fabric couch. Sprinkle baking soda on your fabric couch as well. Let sit for 20 minutes and then vacuum the couch. Vacuum the pillows of the couch or if the covers are removable, toss them in the wash. Be sure to use the vacuum's hose attachment to clean the inside of the sofa and rotate cushions as you replace them. While you are at it, wash all the throw blankets and then fold them and place the stack somewhere neat and tidy.
- Dust your ceiling fan. Slip a clean pillow case over each blade and slide it off to pick up dust.
- Dust baseboards. Use the brush attachment on your vacuum to remove dirt and dust from the surface of the baseboards.
- Dust your electronic appliances with a dryer sheet.
- Clean light switches and remote controls with a disinfecting wipe.
- Clean your coasters. If they are rubber toss them in the dishwasher. If they have cork on the bottom wipe the tops with a disinfecting wipe.
- Touch up the house plants. Pick off dead plant leaves and dust them. Caked on dust can keep the plant from getting the amount of oxygen it needs.

Service

Clean and organize the welcome area of your social service office, corps welcome center or chapel foyer. Get rid of all the old *War Crys*, Sunday bulletins, etc. Decorate for Christmas.

Decorate the Corps building for Christmas to give it a homey feel. Have a Trim-the-Tree or Corps Decorating Party.

Help with the various Christmas projects at the corps: Kettles, CCM visitation, food box & toy distribution. Have a wrapping party—as a group wrap all the corps Christmas gifts or CCM gifts.

As a WM group provide dinner for your busy corps officers or perhaps childcare for their children.

Craft Idea

Easy Frame Christmas Decorations



Local thrift and dollar stores always have a section of frames in various sizes.

A bow always adds a festive touch.

Old Christmas ornaments and knick-knacks will gain new life in your personal creation.

Many Christmas card pictures are frame worthy.

