WAYS TO PRACTICE PROCLAIMING HOPE AT HOME

Hope is waiting faithfully as God fulfills God’s promises to us through Jesus Christ. Instead of just keeping this hope to ourselves, it is one of our most important callings as people of God to proclaim this hope to the world, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ as the angels and shepherds did long ago.

- Sing Christmas carols together that proclaim the good news of Jesus’ birth. Some possibilities are: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,” “Away in a Manger,” “The First Noel,” “Angels We Have Heard on High,” and “Go Tell It On the Mountain.”
- Gather family and/or friends in a circle and tell the story of Jesus’ birth, taking turns one or two sentences at a time. Allow for creative details to be added. Prompt with questions such as “What happened next?” or “What did they do then?”
- The star was a symbol of hope for the magi who followed it to find Jesus and worship him. Make stars and write a word that would give hope to you or others. Give your “star words” to others proclaiming hope. Some words might be: believe, wonder, trust, promises, faith, and so forth.

God of hope, thank you for the gift of Jesus, hope for the world. May we proclaim that good news far and wide. Amen.
When the shepherds heard the angels praise God for everything they had heard, they were amazed. They left the field and went to see for themselves what the angels had said. Mary and Joseph were afraid, but they had a place to stay. The shepherds followed and saw the baby Jesus. They were happy to see Him and spread the news to everyone. The angels were there, too, singing praises to God.

So they spread the story of the baby Jesus from the fields to the people. The shepherds were happy to share the good news. They told everyone about the baby and the angelic choir. The wise men came to see the baby Jesus. They brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. They were happy to be there. The baby Jesus was in a manger, and the shepherds were happy to see Him. They spread the good news to everyone. The angels were there, too, singing praises to God.

The shepherds were happy to see the baby Jesus. They spread the good news to everyone. The angels were there, too, singing praises to God.

BIBLE STORY

Based on Luke 2:8-20

Follow Me—Hope

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Congregational Guide

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