

Follow the Star



Christmas in July + Youth Mission Trip 2017
Morningstar CSF + Brunswick, GA + July 8-15

Weekly Outline

Theme: "Follow the Star"	Song: "Good Christian Friends Rejoice"	Verses: Matthew 2:10
Sunday	"For Unto Us A Child is Born"	Isaiah 9:1-7
Monday	"The Glory of the Lord Shone Around Them"	Luke 2:8-20
Tuesday	"When They Saw the Star . . ."	Matthew 2:1-12
Wednesday	"Yet it Did Not Fall"	Matthew 7:24-29
Thursday	"The Bright & Morning Star"	Revelation 22:1-5, 12-21
Friday	"Light of the World"	John 8:12-20
Saturday	"Overjoyed"	Matthew 2:10

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

Verse 1

Good Christian friends rejoice
With heart and soul and voice
Give ye heed to what we say
News news Jesus Christ is born today
Ox and ass before Him bow
And He is in the manger now
Christ is born today
Christ is born today

Verse 2

Good Christian friends rejoice
With heart and soul and voice
Now ye hear of endless bliss
Joy joy Jesus Christ was born for this
He has opened heaven's door
And man is blessed evermore
Christ was born for this
Christ was born for this

Verse 3

Good Christian friends rejoice
With heart and soul and voice
Now ye need not fear the grave
Peace peace Jesus Christ was born to save
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain His everlasting hall
Christ was born to save
Christ was born to save

All Creatures of Our God & King

Verse 1

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
O praise Him alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver moon with softer gleam
O praise Him O praise Him
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

Verse 2

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heav'n along
O praise Him alleluia
Thou rising moon in praise rejoice
Ye lights of evening find a voice
O praise Him O praise Him
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

Verse 3

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness
O praise Him alleluia
Praise praise the Father praise the Son
And praise the Spirit three in One
O praise Him O praise Him
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

Joy to the World

Verse 1

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing

Verse 2

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

Verse 3

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as far as the curse is found

Verse 4

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders wonders of His love

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Chorus

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

Verse 1

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light

Chorus

Verse 2

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed the Savior's birth

Chorus

Verse 3

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

Chorus

Star Child

Verse 1

Star-Child earth-Child go between of God
Love Child Christ Child Heaven's lightning
rod

Verse 2

Street child beat child no place left to go
Hurt child used child no one wants to know

Chorus

This year this year let the day arrive
When Christmas comes for everyone
Everyone alive

Verse 4

Spared child spoiled child
having wanting more
Wise child faith child knowing joy in store

Verse 5

Hope for peace Child
God's stupendous sign
Down to earth Child Star of stars that shine

Chorus

This year this year let the day arrive
When Christmas comes for everyone
Everyone alive
(repeat)

Adore

You stepped down from heaven
Humbly you came
God of all creation
Here with us
In a starlit manger
Emmanuel
Light of the world
Here to save

Chorus

Adore
Come let us adore
Oh come let us adore him
The Lord, worship Christ, the Lord
Let all that is within us
Adore

Wise men bring their treasures
Shepherds bow low
Angel voices sing of peace on earth
What have I to offer
To heaven's King
I'll bring my life, my love, my all

Chorus

Bridge

Angels sing, praises ring to the newborn
King
Peace on earth, here with us, joy awakening
At your feet we fall
(repeat)

Chorus

Sunday, July 9

For Unto Us A Child Is Born

Scripture:

But there will be no *more* gloom for her who was in anguish; in earlier times He treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on He shall make *it* glorious, by the way of the sea, on the other side of Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.

The people who walk in darkness

Will see a great light;

Those who live in a dark land,

The light will shine on them.

You shall multiply the nation,

You shall increase their gladness;

They will be glad in Your presence

As with the gladness of harvest,

As men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

For You shall break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders,

The rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian.

For every boot of the booted warrior in the *battle* tumult,

And cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire.

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;

And the government will rest on His shoulders;

And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

There will be no end to the increase of *His* government or of peace,

On the throne of David and over his kingdom,

To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness

From then on and forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.

- *Isaiah 9:1-7*

Words for Reflection:

“Now ye need not fear the grave

Peace peace Jesus Christ was born to save

Calls you one and calls you all

To gain His everlasting hall

Christ was born to save”

- *Good Christian Friends Rejoice*, John Mason Neale

Prayer:

Pray that you recognize the Light of God when it shines on you. Thank God for sending a Savior to the dark world.

Monday, July 10

The Glory of the Lord Shone Around Them

Scripture:

In the same region there were *some* shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. This *will be* a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest,

And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.”

When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds *began* saying to one another, “Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.” So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger. When they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child. And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart. The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.

- Luke 2:8-20

Words for Reflection:

“Late on a sleepy, star-spangled [night](#), those angels peeled back the sky just like you would tear open a sparkling Christmas present. Then, with light and joy pouring out of heaven like [water](#) through a broken dam, they began to shout and sing the message that baby Jesus had been born. The world had a savior! The angels called it 'Good News,' and it was.”

- Larry Libby

Prayer:

Ask God to give you a heart of awe and wonder in the presence of God's glory, like the shepherds had. Thank God for sending angels with Good News to ordinary people.

Tuesday, July 11

When They Saw the Star . . .

Scripture:

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him,

'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:
'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

- *Matthew 2:1-12*

Words for Reflection:

"Christmas gift suggestions: to your enemy, forgiveness.

To an opponent, tolerance.

To a friend, your heart.

To a customer, service.

To all, charity.

To every child, a good example.

To yourself, respect."

- *Oren Arnold*

Prayer:

Thank God for Christ, our reason to always be joyful no matter the circumstances. If there is a part of your life that needs the gift of healing or a touch of joy, ask God to give that to you.

Wednesday, July 12

Yet it Did Not Fall

Scripture:

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!”

Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

- *Matthew 7:24-29*

Words for Reflection:

“Relying on God has to begin all over again every day as if nothing had yet been done.”

- *C. S. Lewis*

Prayer:

Ask Jesus to reveal the part of your life that aren't built on his words. Pray for guidance on how to act on Jesus' teaching. Thank God for the chance to start over again every day.

Thursday, July 13

The Bright and Morningstar

Scripture:

“Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever . . .

See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

“Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and fornicators and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

“It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.”

And let everyone who hears say, “Come.”

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this book; if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away that person’s share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.””

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

- *Revelation 22:1-5, 12-21*

Words for Reflection:

“How completely satisfying to turn from our limitations to a God who has none.”

- *AW Tozer*

Prayer:

Take a moment to rest in God’s glory, majesty and strength. Open yourself to the salvation of Christ Jesus, wherever you might need it in your life and heart. Thank God for never giving up and for returning to us one day.

Friday, July 14

The Light of the World

Scripture:

“Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” Then the Pharisees said to him, “You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid.” Jesus answered, “Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I judge no one. Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is valid; for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf.” Then they said to him, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” He spoke these words while he was teaching in the treasury of the temple, but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.”

- *John 8:12-20*

Words for Reflection:

“Faith is the bird that feels the light when the dawn is still dark.”

- *Rabindranath Tagore*

Prayer:

Thank God for sending Jesus to be the light of the world and the hope in darkness. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you shine the light of Christ wherever you go.

Saturday, July 15

Overjoyed

Scripture:

“When they saw the star they were overjoyed.”

- *Matthew 2:10*

Words for Reflection:

“Find a place inside where there's joy, and the joy will burn out the pain.”

- *Joseph Campbell*

“Joy is prayer; joy is strength; joy is love; joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls.”

- *Mother Teresa*

“When Christ is revealed in us, we are overwhelmed with joy. The Joy of knowing we are not alone, we have someone fighting for us, we have someone loving us always.”

- *Annie Sutton*

Prayer:

Today's prayer is a prayer of action:

By loving yourself, you take joy in yourself as God's creation.

In being kind to others, you give the joy of being accepted.

These acts of goodness shine the light of Christ.

Go, and shine.