

Home for Christmas Nativity Layered Book

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Instructions:

1. Print in Black & White on plain cardstock.
2. Cut top and bottoms out on dotted lines.
3. Leave the left side as-is. Do not cut left side.
4. Cut right side along the silhouette of Joseph, the Shepherd & the Wise man. (This is hard to explain, just trim along the backs on right side of the black silhouettes and not along the dotted line.)
5. Layer all 3.
6. Staple or punch hole for ribbon on left edge.
7. When it's lined up correctly the nativity should include 1 shepherd and 1 wise man. See finished sample image below.

finding the promised joy

Many of us have lost loved ones to death. We may be surrounded by individuals who seek to destroy our faith in the gospel and the Lord's promises of eternal life. Some of us are troubled with illness and with poverty. Others may have contention in the family or no family at all. Yet we can invite the Light of Christ to shine on us and let us see and feel some of the promised joys that lie before us.

For instance, as we gather in that heavenly home, we will be surrounded by those who have been forgiven of all sin and who have forgiven each other. We can taste some of that joy now, especially as we remember and celebrate the Savior's gifts to us. He came into the world to be the Lamb of God, to pay the price of all of the sins of His Father's children in mortality so that all might be forgiven. In the Christmas season we feel a greater desire to remember and ponder the Savior's words. He warned us that we cannot be forgiven unless we forgive others (see Matthew 6:14-15). That is often hard to do, so you will need to pray for help. This help to forgive will come most often when you are allowed to see that you have given as much or more hurt than you have received.

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feeling the joy of giving

There is another glimpse of that joyful future home that we can see more easily at Christmastime. It is the feeling of giving with a generous heart. This can come as we feel the needs of others more than our own and when we sense how generous God has been to us.

It helps to see the kindness of others at Christmastime. How many times have you gone to leave a gift on a doorstep, hoping not to be noticed, only to find more than one unmarked gift already there? Have you felt, as I have, the impression to help someone only to find that what you were inspired to give was exactly what someone needed at that very moment? That is a wonderful assurance that God knows all of our needs and counts on us to fill the needs of others around us.

there is joy in giving and in receiving the generosity that god inspires, especially at christmas.

We use lights to celebrate the Christmas season. Our worship of the Savior and our service for Him brings light into our lives and into the lives of those around us.