

A script from



“Keeping Christ in Christmas”

by
Stephanie James

- What** Christmas is about the Name About All Names, Jesus. This responsive reading is a declaration of where our focus is this season. **Themes:** Christmas, The Name of Jesus, Celebrate
- Who** Reader 1
Reader 2
Congregation
- When** Present
- Wear (Props)** Two black binders
Slides for your screens with the Congregation's lines
- Why** Matthew 5:16
- How** Stay on top of your lines, don't let them drag. Be sure to lead the congregation in their lines as well.
- Time** Approximately 1½ minutes

Readers 1 and 2 address the audience.

R1: "Today a Savior is born in the city of David. He is Christ the Lord". *(Luke 2:11)*

R2: Christ the Lord.

R1: Messiah.

R2: The Name Above All Names.

C: **The Christ we celebrate at Christmas!**

R1: All too often this Name Above All Names is replaced with festive phrases.

R2: Phrases that seek to diminish the reason we celebrate.

R1: "Happy Holidays".

R2: "Season's Greetings". "Merry X-Mas".

C: **We need to keep Christ in Christmas!**

R1: We celebrate our Lord and Savior who was called Prince of Peace.

R2: Everlasting Father.

R1: Wonderful. Counselor.

R2: The One who would carry the weight of the world on His shoulders *(Isaiah 9:6)*.

C: **Mighty God!**

R1: But we live in a society that celebrates greed.

R2: Envy.

R1: Excess.

R2: A holiday tailored to fit any preference or belief. A holiday consumed with material gifts.

C: **We need to keep Christ in Christmas!**

R1: We are saddened by the absence of the nativity in our schools.

R2: Where the story of Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem cannot be told to our children.

R1: And songs about our Savior's birth are no longer sung.

R2: Where our faith is discouraged and must remain silent.

C: **We need to keep Christ in Christmas!**

R1: Stir our hearts this holiday season, Lord.

R2: Let us be bold in saying, "Merry Christmas!"

R1: Let us sing songs of praise!

C: **Oh come let us adore Him! Christ the Lord!**

R1: Let us honor and glorify Your name as the reason for celebration!

C: **Our Emmanuel, Prince of Peace, Counselor, Mighty God!**

R2: Let us share the good news that heaven came down to earth!

C: **Hark the Herald, Angels Sing! Glory to the newborn King!**

R1: Light of the World, You are our greatest gift!

C: **We will carry Your name into a dark world and shine Your light before all people! We will keep Christ in Christmas!**

All: **Joy to the World, the Lord is Come! Let earth receive her King! Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room. And heaven and nature sing. And heaven and nature sing. And heaven, and heaven and nature sing!****

**Matthew 5:16*

**Isaac Watts, 1719.*

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