

# Christmas miracle

## introduction

A week or so in advance, plan a Christmas party for this final meeting of the calendar year. You will need to decide the following.

- Time and place: You may want to change the time and location for this special meeting
- Activities: Pick a few Christmas games to play
- Gift-giving: Have everyone bring an inexpensive gag gift, or you could collect canned goods, toys and/or money to give to a needy family.
- Snacks: Have students sign up to bring snacks and drinks.
- Decorations: Have students decorate the meeting room.

After concluding all the party activities, read Matthew 1:18-25 to introduce the message.

## message

1. It's a miracle that Mary conceived a child by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Bible says, "before they came together, she was found to be with child" (Matthew 1:18). God started his plan to show the world the fullness of his love for us.
2. It's a miracle that an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying "Do not be afraid." Joseph experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit. This was a sign that the Holy Spirit was present, doing a work. In other words, God said to Joseph, "I'm in this thing. Hold on."
3. It's a miracle the events of Christ's birth were predicted hundreds of years in advance by the prophet Isaiah. What many had waited for finally happened. Old Testament prophecy had been fulfilled. The promised Messiah came into this world.
4. The greatest miracle of Christmas is Jesus, the Son of God, who came to give us all eternal life. What an incredible gift Jesus is to you and me. Even if you take away the tinsel from the trees, the marketing schemes from the local stores and the presents under the tree, you still have a great Christmas to look forward to: the celebration of the birth of Jesus, the Messiah.

## salvation appeal

God's Christmas gift to you is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Have you received this gift yet? In all the excitement of this holiday, make time to accept Jesus as your personal savior. Your salvation can be yet another Christmas miracle.

## challenge

Think for a few moments how you might be able to use the Christmas season as a witnessing help. The very nature of Christmas, the celebration of the birth of Jesus, is a natural conversation starter. Does your church have a Christmas program to which you could invite friends? Is your family doing something special that your friends could be a part of?

