

## REFLECTION IDEAS

### No Room

**Luke 2:1-20; Matthew 2:1-12**

This presentation examines how it can sometimes be difficult to find Jesus in our Christmas celebrations because of all the other things we do at this time of year. However, looking at the Christmas narrative found in the Bible we discover that without Jesus (Christ) there would be no Christmas.

The assembly looks at the ways in which people leave Christ (or Jesus) out of their Christmas. In the puppet sketch one puppet has arranged a surprise party but has forgotten to invite the person whose party it is. There is a sketch, and a song with a mime, which illustrate some of the many reasons that there is no room in many people's Christmases for Jesus, just as there was no room at the inn. The story of the visit of the wise men is shared through a fun chant: these were busy people who did take the time to find Jesus.

### Questions for reflection

- What are you looking forward to doing this Christmas? How might you include or remember Jesus in some of those things? Remember, without Jesus' birth there would be no Christmas to celebrate!
- How do you think the puppet felt when they had not been invited to their own birthday party? Do you think Jesus feels sad when we celebrate Christmas without him?

### Links

Cartoon versions of the Bible story can be found here: [youtu.be/FrTFAZPQxpE](https://youtu.be/FrTFAZPQxpE) [youtu.be/OiEtuCaOEB4](https://youtu.be/OiEtuCaOEB4)

A sand art version is found here: <https://youtu.be/BLZG11txiZ0>

For a different take on the Christmas story for older children: [www.paperlesschristmas.org.uk](http://www.paperlesschristmas.org.uk)

John Hardwick's Busy song used in the assembly: <https://youtu.be/Rr5aovNgnM8>

Please check they are suitable for your group.

Books to share on the theme of 'no room': [No Room: A Read-Aloud Story of Christmas : Riddle, Peter H., Hustins, Shelley](#); [Jesus' Christmas Party : Allan, Nicholas, Buswell, Sue](#)

### Inspire Prayer Space Activity – No Room

#### Equipment

A range of different Christmas cards – some reflecting Jesus' birth and others not.

#### Description

One of the things some people do to prepare for Christmas is send cards. Have you made or bought yours yet? Are you prepared?

Christians believe that God sent his son Jesus to be born, and this is the true reason for celebrating Christmas! Take a look at some of the cards. Can you see one that reflects the true reason for celebrating Christmas? Can you see one that doesn't?

As you look, you may like to say a prayer in your head to thank God for sending Jesus at Christmas.

**inspire**  
prayer spaces



See below for activity ideas

*Adapted from a Prayer Spaces in Schools resource*

Activity ideas:

### Make room for a Christmas word search

M	S	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	R	E	T	TURKEY	HOLLY	BELLS
E	A	S	E	R	T	T	R	E	E	T	T	NOEL	TREE	GIFT
S	O	N	G	J	E	S	U	S	F	I	U	STAR	JOY	SONG
B	Y	S	G	T	F	I	G	R	E	N	R	YULE LOG	GOLD	REINDEER
E	O	R	T	E	V	R	N	K	K	S	K	SANTA	SHEPHERDS	CAKE
L	J	E	Y	A	R	H	A	J	H	E	E	PUDDING	PRESENTS	KINGS
L	C	I	H	H	R	C	H	O	L	L	Y	MANGER	BABY	TINSEL
S	A	N	N	N	I	Y	B	A	B	G	S	CAROL		
Z	R	D	O	K	Y	U	L	E	L	O	G	<p>There are two words missing from this list, but they ARE in the grid.</p> <p>a) Can you find them?</p> <p>b) Does their <i>shape</i> remind you of anything?</p> <p>[Use some letters more than once.]</p>		
R	O	E	P	U	D	D	I	N	G	L	N			
D	L	E	O	S	A	N	T	A	S	D	I			
S	D	R	E	H	P	E	H	S	E	R	K			

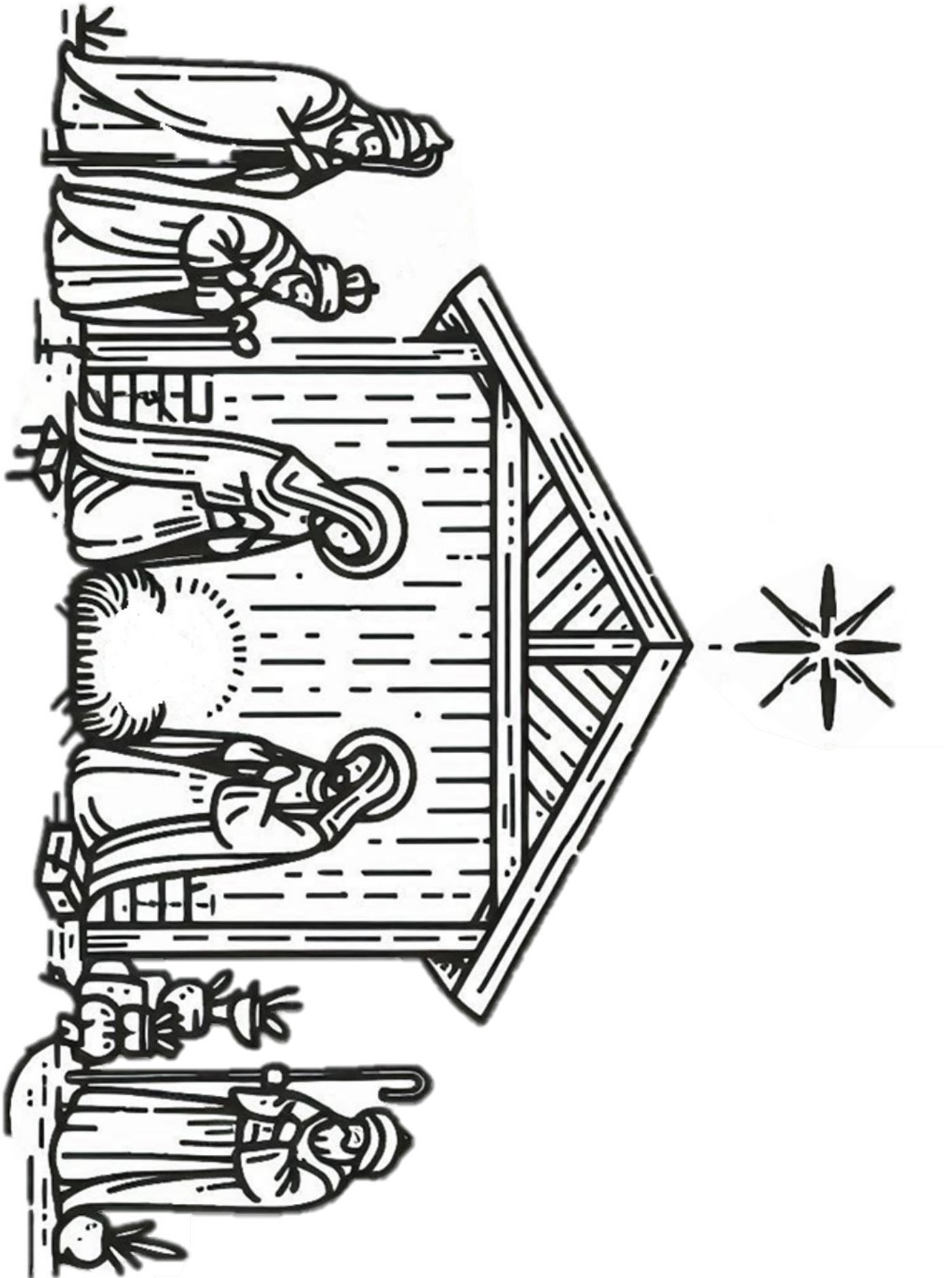
Can you divide the words on the list into those that have something to do with the Bible account of the Christmas story and those that do not?

- Make a birthday card for Jesus
- Use Lego or play people to re-tell the Christmas story. A poetic re-telling using Lego is found [here](#).

Some other useful links:

- [Free to use Christmas story images and text](#)
- [Christmas story and activities from Why Christmas](#)
- [Nativity set to print and make](#)

Colour in the nativity scene below. Who is missing? Can you draw them to make the scene complete?



## Shepherds Told of Jesus Spot the Differences

Compare the picture on the top with the picture on bottom. Circle the 11 things that are different.

