

Christmas Time: It's All About Jesus



Ah, Christmas time! The season of joy, love, and giving. As the air turns colder and the streets get adorned with colorful lights and festive decorations, it's hard not to feel the magic in the atmosphere. But amidst the commercialization and festivities, it's important to remember the true meaning of Christmas – it's all about Jesus.

The Birth of Jesus: A Miracle Worth Celebrating

Christmas is not just another holiday; it commemorates the miraculous birth of Jesus Christ, the Savior of humanity. According to the biblical accounts, Jesus was born to Mary in Bethlehem, fulfilling a prophecy spoken of by countless

prophets throughout history. His birth signaled hope, peace, and redemption for all mankind.



Christmas Time: It's All About Jesus!

by Sue M. Barksdale (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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The nativity scene, often displayed during Christmas, reminds us of this significant event. It portrays baby Jesus lying in a humble manger, surrounded by Mary, Joseph, shepherds, and animals. This scene is a powerful symbol of God's love and willingness to become human, bridging the gap between heaven and earth.

The Impact of Jesus on the World

Jesus' life and teachings have had an immeasurable impact on the world for over two thousand years. He preached love, compassion, and forgiveness, and his teachings continue to shape the moral fabric of societies worldwide. Christmas is a reminder of the invaluable lessons Jesus imparted on humanity – the importance of kindness, selflessness, and the pursuit of justice.

Beyond his teachings, Jesus' ultimate sacrificial act – his crucifixion and resurrection – offers salvation and eternal life to those who believe in him. This

message of hope and redemption is at the core of Christianity, and Christmas serves as a celebration of Jesus' mission on Earth.

Keeping Christ in Christmas: A Call to Action

In recent years, the true meaning of Christmas has often been overshadowed by consumerism and materialism. Marketing campaigns focus on gift-giving, Santa Claus, and extravagant parties, leading many to forget the essence of the season. However, as individuals, we can actively keep Christ in Christmas.

One way to do this is by reflecting on the significance of Jesus' birth and incorporating his teachings into our celebrations. We can extend a helping hand to those in need, showing kindness and generosity to others. Instead of solely concentrating on receiving gifts, we can focus on giving back to our communities, spreading love and joy as Jesus did.

Additionally, attending church services, participating in nativity plays or pageants, and engaging in prayer and reflection can help us center our celebrations around Jesus' birth and its divine purpose.

Embracing the Spirit of Christmas

Beyond religious connotations, Christmas holds a universal appeal as a time of unity and togetherness. It's a season when families, friends, and communities come together to create lasting memories.

Embracing the spirit of Christmas means embracing love, joy, and goodwill towards all. It means setting aside differences, forgiving one another, and spreading happiness wherever we go. The values that Jesus exemplified during his time on Earth are the same values that make Christmas a magical and meaningful time for people of all faiths and backgrounds.

Let us remember that amidst the hustle and bustle of Christmas preparations, Jesus is the reason for the season. By keeping him at the center of our celebrations, we can honor the true essence of Christmas and experience a deeper sense of joy and fulfillment.

The True Meaning of Christmas

So, this Christmas, let's take a step back from the commercial influences and remind ourselves that it's all about Jesus. Let's cherish the miracle of his birth, meditate on his teachings, and share his love with others. Let's make Christmas a time of reflection, gratitude, and purpose, allowing the message of hope and salvation to fill our hearts.

Whether you believe in Jesus as the Son of God or appreciate his wisdom as a historical figure, you can still embrace the spirit of Christmas by embodying his teachings. It's a time to practice forgiveness, generosity, and love – qualities that have the power to transform lives and make the world a better place for everyone.



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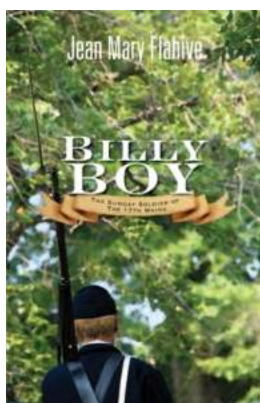
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Since Christmas is such a captivating time of year, it's the perfect setting for telling children about the miracle of the Lord Jesus Christ's birth. Using selected passages from the first chapters of the gospels of Matthew and Luke, Christmas Time – It's All About Jesus tells the story of Jesus' birth in a delightfully poetic and child-like way. The sensational illustrations create an unforgettable image, so a child can always remember the true meaning of Christmas. As an added bonus, Pastor Russ and Sue have developed devotionals to be used by families to enrich their Christmas celebrations. These are complete with attributes and names of Jesus, questions for discussion, and activities to do as a family to share Christ with those around them. Coupled together, this story and devotionals will enhance your celebration of Christmas during the season and all year long!

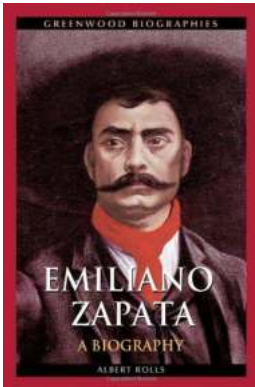
About the Author

Sue Murray Barksdale has been a pastor's wife, mom, and educator for over 30 years. She and her husband Russ live in Arlington, Texas, where Russ pastors the multi-site The Church on Rush Creek, a multi-site church. Sue has a BS in Elementary Education from The University of Houston and enjoys teaching at a public charter school in their neighborhood. Russ and Sue consider their relationship with their grown children and spouses and their six beautiful grandchildren as one of the greatest blessings in life! Their desire to leave a legacy of Christ-centered lives motivated them to write this book for their own family and all the children in their sphere of influence. This is Sue's second book, her first being G.I.F.T.S.: A Prayer Book for Kids and Those Who Love Them.



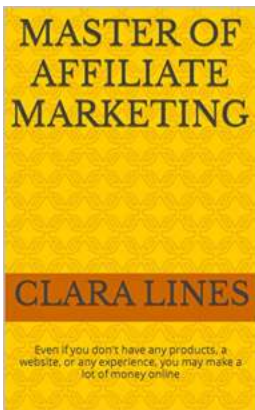
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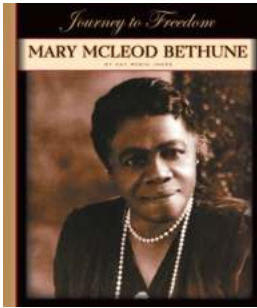
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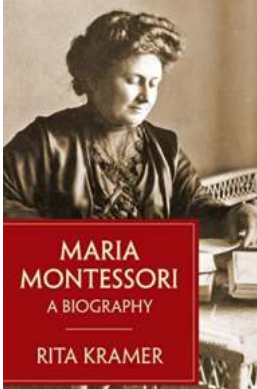
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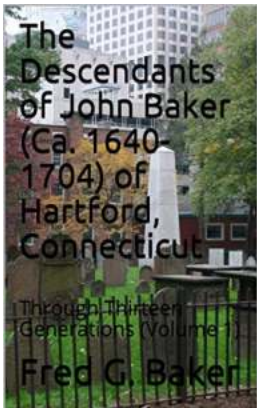
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