

Carrying Christmas into Life Matthew 2: 18-23

Intro: Lucy to Charlie Brown, "Merry Christmas. Since it is that time of the season, I think we ought to bury past differences and try to be kind." CB "Why does it have to be this time of the season? Why can't it be all year long?" Lucy "What are you? some kind of a fanatic?"

Wouldn't it be wonderful if Christmas could last all year long? We don't expect it to."

Example: Jumping out of a plane without a parachute!!!!!!!

HIT THE GROUND!

Mary and Joseph had to do it. Shepherds, Star, Wise Men, all gone!

******What does it mean to carry Christmas into life?**

*******We must carry Christmas into the home.**

Mary and Joseph had to help Jesus grow up!

Emphasize the importance of God and His will!

Church, Scripture, Faith. "In wisdom and in stature and in favor

with God and with men, Christmas is a time to remember, family, the spirit of love, joy, hope, and peace in your home. Teach it to each other. Note the importance of the home.

*******We must carry Christmas into our workaday worlds!**

Mary and Joseph had to survive - Carpenter - worked hard

-Poor After Christmas a new significance of being servants of God!

Makes work easier Back to work – school

Offer up all we do to God.

ILL. In school the Lord got my heart

WE should never be the same again because of Bethlehem

CHRIST WAS BORN!

*******We Must Carry Christmas into the area of our faith**

Mary and Joseph would need to remember Bethlehem often because there would be moments in their lives when their faith in God would be sorely tested and tried.

-Egypt - Joseph probably died and left Mary alone!

Had God abandoned her?

“Pondered these things in her heart.”

Christmas doesn't mean everything will go well!

**Howard Thurman, “When the song of the angel is stilled,
when the star is gone when the kings, princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of
Christians begin: To find the lost, to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry, to release the prisoners, to rebuild the
nations, to bring peace among sisters and brothers and
to make music in the heart.”**