

# LWML *Texas* District

December 26

Meditation

## Traditions

What is your favorite Christmas tradition? Some favorite traditions in our home include looking at Christmas lights and baking. Sights and smells can invoke many memories. The smell of cinnamon will forever make me think of my grandmother's house every time we would go visit.

What scents do you think reminded Mary of Jesus' birth story? Was it the smell of fresh hay? Maybe the scent of a fire or freshly made food?

Christmas lights can remind us of the star that shone over the place where Jesus was born. It is possible the wisemen from the East could have been from where the Israelites were once in captivity. They had studied the signs of the coming Jewish King. They knew what to look for, and they wanted to meet Him. After all, if they had studied and learned about this coming King, there was bound to be quite the celebration from His own people. Yet, this was not the case.

The only visitors we are told of to see the newborn Christ child, were some shepherds and possibly some of the town's people who heard the good news the shepherds shared along the way. Christmas lights could also remind us of those shepherds and the angels who shared the good news.

*And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them (Luke 2:8–18).*

As we continue to celebrate this Christmas season, our challenge is to be like the angels, star, shepherds, and wisemen, and share the good news of the newborn Savior of the world.

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*Written by Kayla Winkler  
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