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### **Narration 1: Waiting for God's Coming**

By: Clarine, Jaimelynn, Wei Jun, Xi Xian, Xin Xian, Yi Hui Background: Ronald, Ethel, Serin, Christine

In the beginning was God, and God made all things good. Humankind was well and whole and right with God too. They could walk with God in the cool of the day. They enjoyed each other and cared for nature; They followed God's way.

But they fell for a lie and turned away from God.
Broken are their souls and everything started to rot—
Sickness and decay, conflicts and theft;
Sadness and despair, hubris and death;

But God showed mercy, promised them hope, and gave them life. They squandered on pleasures that bring only strife.

Among the nations was one who cried: Israel, the Hebrews enslaved to a tyrant with might.

God heard their groaning and remembered His promise; He came and rescued them so they'd become His. God gave Israel a mission: to show the world His glory; That the world may know His vision: of light and life in His story.

Israel turned away from God and served themselves.

Their peace and blessings, for prosperity they were quick to sell.

They brought upon themselves the curse of exile;

Defeated and lost, slaves again, their glory defiled.

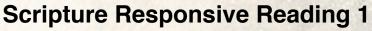
### **Narration 1: Waiting for God's Coming**

By: Clarine, Jaimelynn, Wei Jun, Xi Xian, Xin Xian, Yi Hui Background: Ronald, Ethel, Serin, Christine

But God saw their suffering and His mercy is more; He promised a King who'd come with peace forevermore; A King who's perfect and just and good, A King who'd come to make all things new; Who'd reconcile every broken thing and make us whole; Who'd cover all our shame and heal every soul. Every sword will become a spade, And God's love will erase every hate; The wolf will dwell with the lamb, And a child shall lead all of them. And the whole earth will be filled with the glory of the Lord As the waters cover the sea, And every breath carries the name of God. And so Israel waited for this King to come, For God's perfect will to be done.

God sent prophets after prophets, who called Israel to turn to God, who promised that God was coming. God was coming.

Then, there were 400 years of silence. God did not speak. There were no prophets. There was no word from God. How long, they cried, before He'd come? How long would they wait for His will to be done? How long before a word from God? How long before a word from God?



By: Vincent Lim and Mei Lee

#### Psalm 130:5-8 (Mei Lee and Women)

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

#### Romans 8:19-21 (Vincent and Men)

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

#### O Come O Come Emmanuel

By: Stanley Leong and Dorcas Yap

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

O come, Thou, Dayspring from on high And cause Thy light on us to rise Disperse the gloomy clouds of night And death's dark shadow put to flight Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, O come, true prophet of the Lord And turn the key to heaven's door Be Thou our comforter and guide And lead us to the Father's side Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall by His word our darkness dispel

#### O Come O Come Emmanuel

By: Stanley Leong and Dorcas Yap

O come, our Great High Priest, and intercede
Thy sacrifice our only plea
The judgment we no longer fear
Thy precious blood has brought us near
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Has banished every fear of hell

O Come, Thou King of nations bring
An end to all our suffering
Bid every pain and sorrow cease
And reign now as our Prince of Peace
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come again with us to dwell

By: SGC 16

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Jesus is the Word, the Son of God.

All things were made by Him, through him and for Him. Everything in heaven and on earth will worship Him. But He chose to come to us.

Not apart from us, but one of us.

He chose to be born among us.

He chose to be with us.

This is how He came.
An angel appeared before a poor young woman; her name was Mary.
The angel declared to her: she would bear a son, his name would be Jesus, which means God saves.
He is the Son of God, the King of all Kings.
He is the promised King, the long awaited King.
An angel appeared to Joseph, who was betrothed to Mary. The angel declared to Joseph:
Mary, though a virgin would conceive a son; it is from God, so do not divorce her.
The child's name shall be Immanuel, which means God with us.
This is our God. A God who saves.
A God who comes to be with us.

By: SGC 16

At the time Jesus was due to be born,
Caesar Augustus decreed a census in the Roman Empire.
Joseph and the heavily pregnant Mary
travelled to Bethlehem for the census.
They had no room at the inn or guest room.
But Mary went into labour. It was a labour of love.
An angel appeared to shepherds nearby, declaring:
"The Saviour is born; the King and Christ is born!
Go to find a baby in a manger."
And so, the shepherds hurried on.
Jesus was born and placed in a manger.
Around him were probably donkeys and cows.

And the shepherds came and witnessed the baby in the manger as the angel declared. They came with nothing to offer. They came and praised God in awe and wonder. They came and saw the God who came. They came, and forever they were changed. This is our God.

The God who made the universe is the God who came to be with the lowest and poorest. This is our God.

The God who came not in comfort or luxury but sacrifice and poverty.

By: SGC 16

Sometime after, astrologers from the East interpreted the stars in the skies declaring that the long awaited King has been born. They travelled to find him that they may worship him.

They went to the capital city of Jerusalem, asking to find this King. But Herod, then king of the Jews, was troubled. He called his religious leaders who told him that the scriptures uttered by prophets hundreds of years ago foretold the promised King would be born in Bethlehem. Herod told the astrologers to go and return to him with news. Herod wanted to kill this boy who would be King.

The astrologers followed the star that led them to Jesus.
They came and offered their best gifts.
Gold for royalty.
Frankincense as an incense offering of worship.
Myrrh as a sign of his eventual death,
as it is used for embalming the dead.
Even the astrologers knew this Jesus was no ordinary king.

The astrologers were warned in a dream not to return to Herod.

By: SGC 16

An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and warned him to take Jesus and Mary to flee to Egypt because Herod wants to kill the boy. And so they fled to Egypt, taking refuge.

Herod soon realised he was fooled by the astrologers. He sent his men to kill young boys in Bethlehem below the age of two. That fateful night, those young sons died, murdered by a ruthless king.

Such is the broken world we live in. Violence, sickness, and envy; competition, abuse, and pride.

Our God sent His Son Jesus to suffer and die an innocent death that He may save forever those young boys killed that day by the hands of the ruthless king.
Our God sent His Son Jesus to come to this broken world, to dwell with us in our mess.

This is our God, the servant king, who was glorious in heaven above. Humbly He came to the earth He created, all for love's sake became poor.



# **Scripture Responsive Reading 2**

By: Raja Sathy Velloo and Charlotte Kooi

Matthew 1:20-23 (Raj and Men)

... behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).



# **Scripture Responsive Reading 2**

By: Raja Sathy Velloo and Charlotte Kooi

#### **Luke 2:8-14 (Charlotte and Women)**

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!"



#### Philippians 2:5-11 (Raj and Men)

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

# Worship in Song: O Holy Night

O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine, the night when Christ was born
O night, O Holy Night, O night divine!
O night, O Holy Night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand
O'er the world a star is sweetly gleaming
Now come the wisemen from out of the Orient land
The King of kings lay thus lowly manger
In all our trials born to be our friend
He knows our need, our weakness is no stranger
Behold your King! Before him lowly bend!
Behold your King! Before him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother
And in his name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we
With all our hearts we praise His holy name
Christ is the Lord! Then ever, ever praise we
His power and glory ever more proclaim!
His power and glory ever more proclaim!

# Worship in Song: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With th' angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

# Worship in Song: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

#### Narration 3: Come and See: Jesus

By: SGC 1

From the hymn: Tell Me the Story of Jesus (by Fanny Crosby)

Come, let us hear the story of Jesus, write on our hearts every word; tell us the story most precious, sweetest that ever was heard.
Tell how the angels, in chorus, sang as they welcomed His birth, "Glory to God in the highest!
Peace and good tidings to earth."

Fasting alone in the desert, tell of the days that are past; how for our sins He was tempted, yet was triumphant at last.
Tell of the years of His labor, tell of the sorrow He bore; He was despised and afflicted, homeless, rejected, and poor.

Tell of the cross where they nailed Him, writhing in anguish and pain; tell of the grave where they laid Him, tell how He rose and lives again.

Love in that story so tender, clearer than ever we see: stay, let me weep while you whisper, love paid the ransom for me.

#### Narration 3: Come and See: Jesus

By: SGC 1

Adapted from Hillsong United "You Hold Me Now"

You rose to heaven to take your place
You promise you're with us till the end of days
You'll come back to make all things new
You'll come back because you're faithful and true
You'll reconcile every broken thing and make us whole;
You'll cover all our shame and heal every soul.

On that day when you come, Lord Jesus We see all You have prepared for us We see You face to face Embraced into Your grace

All our fears swept away

And forever we are free

No weeping, no hurt or pain
No suffering, You will dwell with us
You have come to us
No darkness, no sick or lame
No hiding. You will dwell with us,
You have come to us

### Narration 3: Come and See: Jesus

By: SGC 1

Adapted from Hillsong United "You Hold Me Now"

In this life we can stand
Through our joy and our pain
Knowing there's a greater day
There's a hope that never fails
When Your name is lifted high

We're believing for the day
When the wars and violence cease
And all creation lives in peace

When Your Kingdom comes
Your will be done
On earth as is it in heaven



By: Nicholas Hu and Cheryl Yap

#### Isaiah 9:2 (Cheryl and Women)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

#### Matthew 9:35-36 (Nicholas and Men)

And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

#### 2 Corinthians 5:17-19 (All)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

### The Servant King

By: SGC 3

From heaven you came helpless babe Entered our world, your glory veiled Not to be served but to serve And give Your life that we might live

#### [Chorus]

This is our God, The Servant King He calls us now to follow Him To bring our lives as a daily offering Of worship to The Servant King

There in the garden of tears
My heavy load he chose to bear
His heart with sorrow was torn
'Yet not My will but Yours, ' He said

Come see His hands and His feet The scars that speak of sacrifice Hands that flung stars into space To cruel nails surrendered

[Bridge]
We bring our lives to you
A sacrifice for you
In view of love so true
We are changed, renewed

### **Scripture Responsive Reading 4**

By: Reuel Toh

#### Isaiah 35:10

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

#### Revelation 21:3-5

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."



Song Presentation Revelation 22:20 - 21

By: Small Group Singers

He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! Amen, Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

### Message

By: Elder Ronald Wong

- · Waiting and Longing
- An Inconsolable Longing
- God Came
- · God is Coming
- Come

God's presence is our ultimate satisfaction.

God came so that we know He is with us.

God came so that we may long for His everlasting satisfying presence.

God came to suffer with us and for us, so that we can come to Him.

## O Come, All You Unfaithful

By: Worship Team

O come, all you unfaithful Come, weak and unstable Come, know you are not alone

O come, barren and waiting ones Weary of praying, come See what your God has done

Christ is born, Christ is born Christ is born for you

O come, bitter and broken Come with fears unspoken Come, taste of His perfect love

O come, guilty and hiding ones There is no need to run See what your God has done

Christ is born, Christ is born Christ is born for you

He's the Lamb who was given Slain for our pardon His promise is peace For those who believe He's the Lamb who was given Slain for our pardon His promise is peace For those who believe So come, though you have nothing Come, He is the offering Come, see what your God has done

Christ is born, Christ is born Christ is born for you Christ is born, Christ is born Christ is born for you

# Joy to the World

By: Worship Team

Joy to the world, the Lord has come Let earth receive her King Let every heart prepare Him room And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

oy to the earth, the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as, far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

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