



# Christmas



Amanda Bennett

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***This book is dedicated to our Lord and Savior,  
Jesus Christ, who came to earth as a babe  
so that He could one day  
save His people for eternity.***



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## UNIT STUDIES -- THE EASY WAY!

Welcome to Amanda Bennett's interactive unit study series -- easy-to-use unit studies written in a cross-curricular approach about many interesting and important topics. Using simplicity and readily-available resources to enhance the learning process, your children can learn about these topics in ways never before possible. Unit studies allow students to use a natural learning process - one that is so familiar to us as we become adults, and yet is far removed from textbooks, full of concentrated and condensed facts and figures.

Using these studies, your children will learn about a particular topic, covering the science, history, geography, art, and any other areas of study that apply to the topic. For example, while working on **Christmas**, they will discover the prophecies of Christ's birth and the fulfillment of those prophecies. They will gain an understanding of the key people and places that were involved in this - the MOST important event in the history of the world. After all, this is His-story!

These books make learning a fascinating and thought-provoking adventure, which is the way that learning SHOULD be - life-long learners are successful, inquisitive and engaging, contributing so much to our world. Let's face it - many people would love to give up their dry and fact-filled textbooks to try unit studies, but don't have the time to do the research and /or preparation, or the confidence to try a new method of learning.

I understand these problems and hesitations all too well. As we considered educating our own children using unit studies, we had the same questions. Where do we begin, how do I structure the study, what do I cover, how do I record the work? This series of books is a product of this adventure -- designed to make your path simpler and your load lighter, while guiding your students along a successful road of learning.

Written with you and your family in mind, you will know what to do each day; what to cover; and what is important to study about Christmas. The research and preparation have been done for you. The daily plan and assignments are here, ready for immediate use. You will find that this guide uses the Bible as a primary resource with the Internet and other books as secondary resources. This has been done for many reasons, among which include the wealth of information now available online for in-depth studies, the ease of accessing this information for most parents and teachers, as well as the fact that it is affordable and much simpler to use than numerous trips to the library or bookstore.

Please note that the Internet sites used have been carefully screened for appropriate content for the study. From virtual tours of places in the Holy Land to fun projects that are **EASY** to make, the wealth of information is amazing. We will visit Bethlehem as it might have been on that special night so very long ago. We will read about Herod and learn more about his tyranny. You will get a better feel

for how people lived in those days - see the fields of Bethlehem where angels announced His birth to the shepherds. (Parents & teachers - remember that Internet site content can change overnight - please check the sites that you plan to use, **BEFORE** using them in the study, to be on the safe side.)

This book is divided into four weeks of study. Designed for all ages, from early elementary through adult, each day has a basic structured learning plan for Elementary Grades (**Lower Level**) and one for Jr./Sr. High Grades (**Upper Level**). Depending on the ages and needs of your children, you can choose to use all or just a few of the daily assignments. For example, a six-year-old student might be assigned only one or two spelling words and perhaps just one of the Read and Discover questions, while a ten-year-old student might do most of the **Lower Level** assignments for each day. The same holds true for Jr./Sr. High school students. While most high school juniors or seniors should be able to complete all of the daily assignments on the **Upper Level**, a fourteen year old might not be ready to handle that much work in a day. Use these lessons as a tool, and customize them to fit your family and your children's needs. What doesn't get completed this year can be left for further study next year.

**The Daily Learning Plan is comprised of the following basic components:**

- **Today's Passage** - to be read, copied, and perhaps even memorized.
- **Words of Wisdom (WOW)** - spelling/vocabulary words and their definitions to be written, studied, and learned.
- **People and Places to Know** - Important and interesting people and places will be investigated during the study
- **Read and Discover** - questions that must be researched and answered as each topic is explored.

**Two important notes:**

1, Please note that the Internet sites used have been carefully screened for appropriate content for the study, but the **parent/teacher should check the sites ahead of the child** – just in case the site content has changed and is no longer appropriate.

2. Make sure that you are online before opening the study file – this makes the study links “clickable” on the Internet.



***For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour,  
which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you;  
Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes,  
lying in a manger.  
Luke 2:11-12***

# GETTING STARTED

## Ready to Begin the Easy Way of Using Unit Studies? Here We Go!

1. Take a few minutes to look through the study and the list of **Favorite Books** included in the Introduction section of this book. Do you already have some of the titles in your family library? Note other books from the list that you think might be interesting, and request them from the library for this study.
2. With the growth of available online information, we have made extensive use of many of the Internet sites that work well with this study. **These sites have been carefully chosen for their content, but site content can change in a moment, so parents/teachers should visit the sites first as you begin the day's study.** **NOTE:** sign on to the Internet before beginning your interactive unit study session – this allows the links to be live while using the unit study.
3. Pick up an inexpensive spiral notebook, report folder, or composition notebook for each student to be used as their **Christmas Journal**. They can decorate the notebook or folder with shepherds, stars, nativity scenes, wise men, and other Christmas designs, stickers, and decorations.
4. Collect some materials for a **Family Christmas Memories Album**. This album is going to include a collection of your family memories of this study - photos of the projects and papers, as well as any souvenirs that your family collects along the way. You can use a three-ring binder and notebook paper, or a scrapbook or regular photo album. Use this album, year after year, to record your further Christmas studies, memories, menus, and photographs - create a treasure!
5. Look over the **FAMILY PROJECTS** page. Keep some of these in mind for each week of the study, using them as they fit into your family's studies and schedule.
6. **How can you use this study with several different ages of students?** Allow flexibility in your study. Pick and choose the topics that you know are right for your child – those that match with his/her abilities and interests. For example, a 1st grader doesn't need to work on all of the **Lower Level** spelling & vocabulary words – perhaps just a few will be sufficient to let them learn and expand their confidence. For older students, I have included additional websites at the end of each week for further reading, just for those who are looking for greater challenge in this study.

And now, take off and enjoy the adventure - there is much to be learned, and it should be fun for everyone. Before I forget -- realize that your students

may take off on new tangents that pertain to the topic, but you will be able to maintain the basic flow of learning using this unit study guide. Remember, life-long learners have plenty of ground to cover!

**May you and your family have a blessed Christmas!**

## INTRODUCTION

Christmas, a time of praise and rejoicing, is quickly approaching. It is time to ready our hearts, homes, and minds for this special Christian holiday. It is a time of beautiful sights and sounds, family worship, and traditions. With the smell of the cinnamon and cloves, the sight of twinkling lights and beautiful nativity scenes, and the radiant faces of the children, Christmas opens the door to our faith as well as our hearts.

As we celebrate His birth, let us take time to learn and share the love that God packaged so carefully in His tiny infant Son and sent to us on that cold night so long ago in a small town called Bethlehem. Like the shepherds and the wise men, we, too, still seek Him.

Just as the stars lit the sky on that night so long ago, we can use this study to light our way back to that time, to walk the streets of Bethlehem and to stand in its shepherd fields. With this study and the Internet, we can visit some of these places and see the actual sights. We can study the history of the Roman government and the tyranny of Herod, who was put in his position with the help of none other than Cleopatra and Mark Antony.

What was the world like when Christ was born? What were the Jews and the Romans dealing with in those days? Hundreds of years of prophecy and anticipation were fulfilled with our Lord's birth, following centuries and generations of waiting and sharing the prophecies -- waiting and waiting for this one event that changed history **FOREVER**. It began the chain of events that would change the world's history and our future. With His coming, we were given the chance to be saved -- for eternity. God always keeps His promises!

It is my prayer that you learn from this as we are learning. Close your eyes and imagine the brightness of that star in the heavens almost 2,000 years ago -- can't you see the anticipation and eagerness of the faces of the Wise Men? Like those weary travelers, we, too, seek the King as we approach the celebration of His birth. Each year, when our family works on this study, we understand more and are blessed in many ways.

We tend to share our new knowledge with those around us, who also tend to share, and so it goes on and on, like a pebble dropped in the ocean. So it is with the birth of a tiny baby so long ago in Bethlehem, who knows how far the ripples will travel? No other birth or event in the history of mankind has even come close to making such an impact on all people of all countries! Use this study of Christmas as a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Jesus and as a time to reach out and share with others. May you experience His love and peace!

Christmas Blessings,  
Amanda

## AMANDA'S TIPS ON SEARCH ENGINES

As this book is created, I am using the most up-to-date Internet links available, but the Internet changes moment by moment. With this in mind, **I am including my search engine tips for your use, should you find that a link doesn't provide the information that you need**, or if you and your student want to dig deeper into a specific topic. I **always** recommend that an adult check the search results first, then share appropriate sites with their students.

### SEARCH ENGINES FOR KIDS

[Kids Yahoo Search Engine](#)

[Ask Jeeves for Kids](#)

[KidsClick!](#)

[CyberSleuth Kids](#)

### SEARCH ENGINE THAT I USE FOR MY UNIT STUDY RESEARCH

[Google Advanced Search](#)

(Fill in the search fields making **SURE** to turn **ON Safe Filter!**)

### ***If you find a link that doesn't work:***

***Don't panic! Use these search engine tips to research an answer. The Internet changes second by second, and you can find the information that you need, even if some of the links in this book are broken. These tips and websites should provide alternate websites for the questions in the unit study, should you find broken links.***

Parents & teachers - remember that Internet site content can change overnight – **please check the sites** that you plan to use **BEFORE your child** uses them in the study.

# Christmas -- Week One

## Objectives

- ❖ Recognizing the celebration of Christmas and what it means to the student
- ❖ Learning more about the story of Christ's birth - specifically Mary and the events that occurred prior to Jesus' birth
- ❖ Becoming familiar with the geography of the Middle East at the time of Jesus' birth
- ❖ Developing an understanding of the observation of the Advent celebration

## **Christmas: Week One – Day One**

Today we are going to begin our study of Christmas by looking at the student's thoughts about Christmas.

### **LOWER LEVEL**

#### **Today's Quote**

Copy today's quote into your Christmas Journal:

**“In him was life; and the life was the light of men.”** John 1:4

#### **Words of Wisdom (WOW Words)**

Look up the following words in the dictionary and write the words and their definitions in your Christmas Journal. **Website suggestions:** [Word Central](#) and [Webster's 1828 Dictionary](#)

**Christ**  
**Lord**  
**find**  
**wait**

#### **Interesting People and Places**

Using your Bible, an encyclopedia, or Internet site, look up **Jesus**. Who was He, and who were His earthly parents? Write or narrate the answers for your Journal.

**Website suggestion:** [Jesus' Story](#)

#### **Read and Discover**

Using your Bible, an encyclopedia, dictionary, book, or Internet site, read the following questions and find the answers. Write or narrate your answers for your Journal.

1. When we celebrate Thanksgiving, we are giving thanks for God's blessings. What do we celebrate at Christmas? When your family celebrates Christmas, what are they celebrating?
2. What does your family do to celebrate this holiday? Write or narrate a story about Christmas at your house, including your favorite parts of the celebration!



#### **Internet Resources**

[Keeping Christ in Christmas for Children](#)

[The Real Story](#)

# Christmas: Week One – Day One

## UPPER LEVEL

### Today's Quote

Copy today's quote into your Christmas Journal:

**“He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.” John 1:10–12**

### Words of Wisdom (WOW Words)

Look up the following words in the dictionary and write the words and their definitions in your Christmas Journal. **Website suggestions:** [Webster's 1828 Dictionary](#) and [Dictionary.com](#)

**prophecy  
foretold  
advent  
carpenter**

### Interesting People and Places

Using your Bible, an encyclopedia, or Internet site, look up **Jesus**. Who was he? Summarize your answer in your Journal. **Website suggestions:** [Jesus](#) and [The Ministry of Jesus](#)

### Read and Discover

Using your Bible, library books, encyclopedias, or Internet sites, find the answer to these questions and record your answers in your Journal along with the source of your information (book, encyclopedia, website, etc).

1. How does your family celebrate Christmas? Write at least two paragraphs that describe your favorite Christmas holiday memory in your Journal.
2. What does “**messiah**” mean, as it is used in the Bible? Here is a **website suggestion:** [Easton's Bible Dictionary](#)
3. What does Christmas mean to you -- what does it represent? Write a paragraph that explains your idea of what Christmas is about to you personally in your Journal.



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# **CHRISTMAS NOTEBOOKING PAGES**

**By  
Amanda Bennett**

**Unit Studies by Amanda Bennett, LLC**

## **CHRISTMAS -- NOTEBOOKING PAGES**

On the following pages, you will find decorated pages that you can print and use in each child's Christmas Journal. Your child can use the pages for their daily work, map drawing, project designs, and much more.

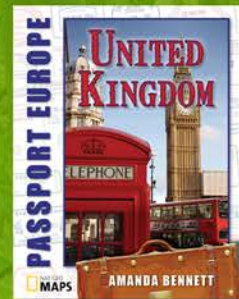
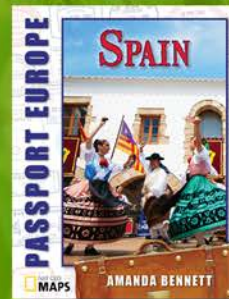
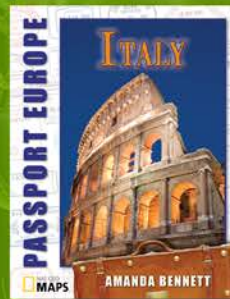
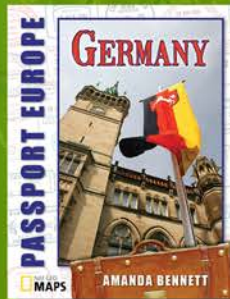
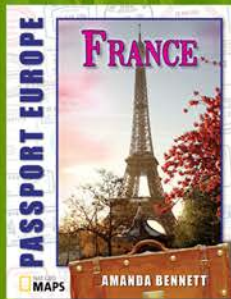
You will notice that some of the pages are lined and others are unlined. This has been done to provide you and your student with some flexibility in their notebook work with Christmas. For pages that they need to draw maps, diagrams, and other project pages, they can use the unlined pages. When they need pages for their writing and research work, they can use the lined pages. Please note that some of the lined pages are done in early elementary style with a dashed line between two solid lines, while other pages are single spaced for older students.

Using notebooks when working on a unit study can be very rewarding for the students, and fun to keep as a memento of their studies. Have fun, and enjoy the adventure!

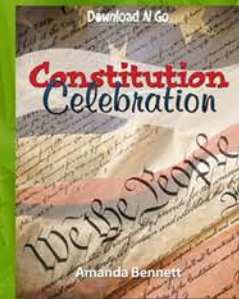
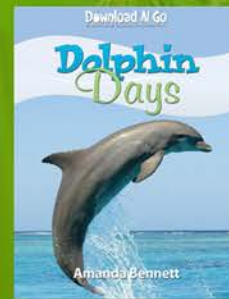
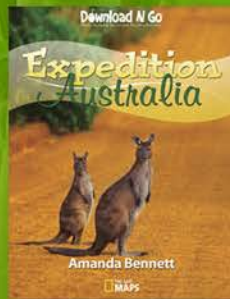
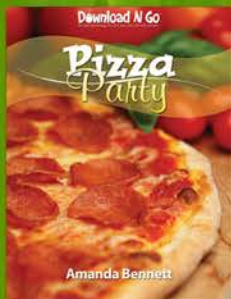
# EXPLORE THE WORLD

with Amanda Bennett

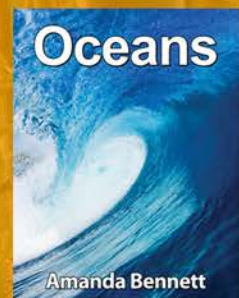
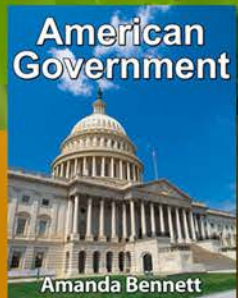
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