

# HIS NAME IS JESUS

*A MUSICAL FOR CHRISTMAS*

## DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

by Nan Allen

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## **“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come” with “O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

Read the Nativity narrative from Luke 2, then read Matthew 2:1-6. When you put these two accounts together, you can see the full story (that God wanted us to know, at least) about His Son’s birth.

The premise of the beloved Christmas carol “Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come” is found in Philippians 4:4-9. What do the hymn writer and the apostle Paul encourage us to do?

Make a promise to God that you will do this year round and not just at Christmastime.

## **“What Did You Say Was the Baby’s Name?”**

Read Matthew 1:18-23. What two names of Jesus are mentioned in this passage? What do these two references mean to you?

Read Psalm 40:1-5. Give praise to the Father for all that He has done. Make a list of those things. Can you relate to the list that the psalmist makes about the Lord’s hand upon his life?

## **“And His Name”**

Read Isaiah 9:6. This is a familiar passage we read at Christmastime. But what do those names mean to you? What does it mean that “the government will be on his shoulders”? Does this give you hope?

Now read Revelation 1:8 and Hebrews 13:8. What do these two passages say about Jesus and His sovereignty?

## **“Emmanuel”**

Read Isaiah 7:14 and compare this to Matthew 1:22-23. These are also familiar passages that we read at Christmastime.

Read the backstory found in the first few verses in Isaiah 7. King Ahaz was afraid and the prophet spoke to him with these familiar words:

“Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: See, the virgin will conceive, have a son, and name him Immanuel” (Isaiah 7:14, CSB).

The promise to the fearful king was a “sign.” What was the sign? In times of fear, realize that you already have a sign—that God is with you.

Remember these words when you are afraid.

## **“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”**

This familiar carol includes many of the names of Jesus: newborn King, Christ, Prince of peace, Sun of Righteousness.

Read Malachi 4:2. This is where the name “Sun of Righteousness” comes from. Malachi compared the Savior (who had not arrived at the time) to the sun—its life-giving properties, its warmth, and its light.

Read John 8:12. What does Jesus call Himself in this passage? How does this reflect the Malachi prophecy?

## **“He Knows My Name”**

Matthew 10:30 echoes the sentiments in the song lyric.

Read Psalm 139:13-16. Realize how important you are to your Creator. Thank Him for making you how you are and for caring for you lovingly.

## **“Say the Name”**

Read Acts 3:1-10. This is an example of Jesus’ healing power even after He ascended back into heaven. The power of His name could heal. It is the same today. His name still has miracle-working power.

Read Philippians 2:5-11. Scholars think that this was part of a hymn that believers sang or spoke in the early church. It is the gospel story in a nutshell. Pay attention, however, to verses 9-11. What does this say about Jesus’ name?

## **“Jesus Is the Sweetest Name I Know”**

Read John 14:12-14. Jesus is talking to His followers at the Passover table just before His crucifixion. What does He say about His own name?

Read Psalm 29:1-2. What words in these verses indicate that His name is worthy of our praise?

## **“Your Name”**

In this song, Proverbs 18:10 is featured in the lyric. Go to the Scripture passage. What does this say about His name? Is this simply a metaphor, or is there power in His name? What attributes of God does the “strong tower” analogy imply?

Remember to speak the name of Jesus when you need to feel safe and when you need a place to rest.