

# SOUTHWELL MINSTER VIRTUAL JUNIOR CHURCH

10 January 2021

**Welcome** Isabel, Bridget, Phoebe, James, Isaac, Lucas, younger James and any other young friends who may be joining us at Minster Virtual Junior Church.  
(Karen speaking)

Let's begin by thinking about each other as if we are together.



And as we do this let's pray for each other, for our families, for our friends and for everyone who is affected by the coronavirus.

*Just have a moment of quiet looking at the candle and remembering that  
Jesus is the light of the world, and he is with us.*

John 1:10-18 Contemporary English Version

<sup>10</sup> The Word was in the world,  
*but no one knew him, though God had made the world with his Word.*

<sup>11</sup> He came into his own world,  
*but his own nation did not welcome him.*

<sup>12</sup> Yet some people accepted him and put their faith in him.  
*So he gave them the right to be the children of God.*

<sup>13</sup> They were not God's children by nature or because of any human desires.  
*God himself was the one who made them his children.*

<sup>14</sup> The Word became a human being and lived here with us.  
*We saw his true glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father.*  
*From him all the kindness and all the truth of God have come down to us.*

<sup>16</sup> *Because of all that the Son is, we have been given one blessing after another.*

<sup>17</sup> The Law was given by Moses, *but Jesus Christ brought us undeserved kindness and truth.*

<sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. *The only Son, who is truly God and is closest to the Father, has shown us what God is like.*

At Christmas, we focus on Jesus coming to earth as a tiny helpless human baby.

The writer of John's gospel tries to answer these three questions:

"WHO was Jesus Christ?"

"WHAT was his purpose?"

"WHY did this happen?"

This writer calls Jesus Christ, "the Word". Try reading the words again, replacing, "the Word" with "Jesus Christ".

**Questions to help you to think.**

1. What do you think the writer of John is trying to help us to understand?
2. Why might we need to know this, particularly at Christmas?

There are no right or wrong answers. These are my thoughts, which may be different to yours, but yours are as good as mine.

1. I have changed some of the Gospel font into italics (*slanting letters*). The parts in italics seem to be the explanations about the Who, What and Why of Jesus. Look at the text again to see if you agree. This writer would have known the whole story of Jesus Christ and he seems to be trying to answer the Who, What and Why questions for his readers - that's us.
2. I think the writer wants us to understand the wonderful story of the baby Jesus at Christmas is only the beginning. There is more to come!

This is an adaptation of the Collect or special prayer that is said in many churches. It seems to sum everything up perfectly.

*God our Father,*

*In love you sent your Son*

*That the world may have life:*

*Lead us to search for Christ among the excluded*

*And to find him in those in need,*

*For Jesus Christ's sake.*

*Amen*

## **Activities**

There is a picture to colour, a crossword and a code breaker to help you remember what you have learnt.

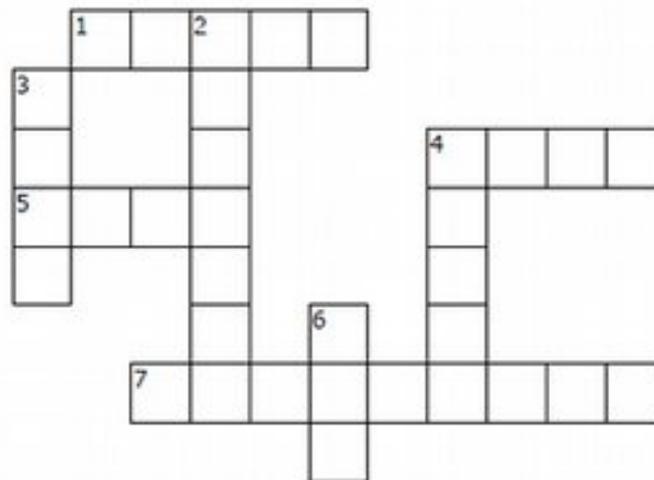
Enjoy.



# Is Christmas Really Over?

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.  
John 1:12 (NIV)

Based on John 1:10-18



## ACROSS

1. The earth and all its inhabitants
4. The place where a person lives
5. A word or words that a person is known by
7. To know someone because you have seen them before

## DOWN

2. To get or be given something
3. Male descendants
4. A man, woman, or child; a person
6. The creator of and ruler of the earth and its people

SONS  
GOD

RECOGNIZE  
HOME

NAME  
WORLD

HUMAN  
RECEIVE

# Is Christmas Really Over?

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Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
M	L	I	V	A	Y	B	C	X	R	K	Z	G	T	J	O	N	Q	H	P	F	D	W	S	U	E

1. 13-10-5-8-26 \_\_\_\_\_
2. 23-16-10-2-22 \_\_\_\_\_
3. 21-2-26-24-19 \_\_\_\_\_
4. 7-16-10-17 \_\_\_\_\_
5. 17-5-1-26 \_\_\_\_\_
6. 14-10-25-14-19 \_\_\_\_\_
7. 7-26-2-3-26-4-26 \_\_\_\_\_
8. 23-16-10-22 \_\_\_\_\_
9. 13-2-16-10-6 \_\_\_\_\_
10. 8-19-3-2-22-10-26-17 \_\_\_\_\_

FLESH	BELIEVE	GLORY	WORLD	BORN
GRACE	NAME	CHILDREN	WORD	TRUTH