



Senior Bible Study Ministry

© Holy Night

Placide Cappeau & Adolphe Adam

<https://www.seniorbiblestudies.org/>

O Holy Night

O Holy Night

- Written by Placide Cappeau, a French poet, in 1843.
- The original French title is “Minuit, chrétiens” (“Midnight, Christians”).
- The music was composed by Adolphe Adam, a French composer, in 1847.
- It was one of the first Christmas carols to be broadcast on radio in 1906.
- Redemption, divine love, and the hope brought by Jesus’ birth.

O Holy Night

*O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
'Til 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; O hear the Angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born
O night, O Holy night, O night divine!*

A wooden manger filled with straw and a white cloth, with a sign on top. The sign has the text "THE BIRTH OF THE SAVIOR, Christ the Lord" written on it. The sign is dark wood with white text. The background is a soft, warm light, suggesting a stable or barn setting.

THE BIRTH OF THE SAVIOR,

Christ the Lord

The Birth of the Savior

- The sacredness of Jesus' birth

6 And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

(Luke 2:6-7 ESV)

The Birth of the Savior

- Humanity's state before Jesus' arrival

*23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
(Romans 3:23 ESV)*

- Jesus gives value to humanity

*16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have
eternal life. (John 3:16 ESV)*

The Birth of the Savior

- The joy of salvation

6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6 ESV)

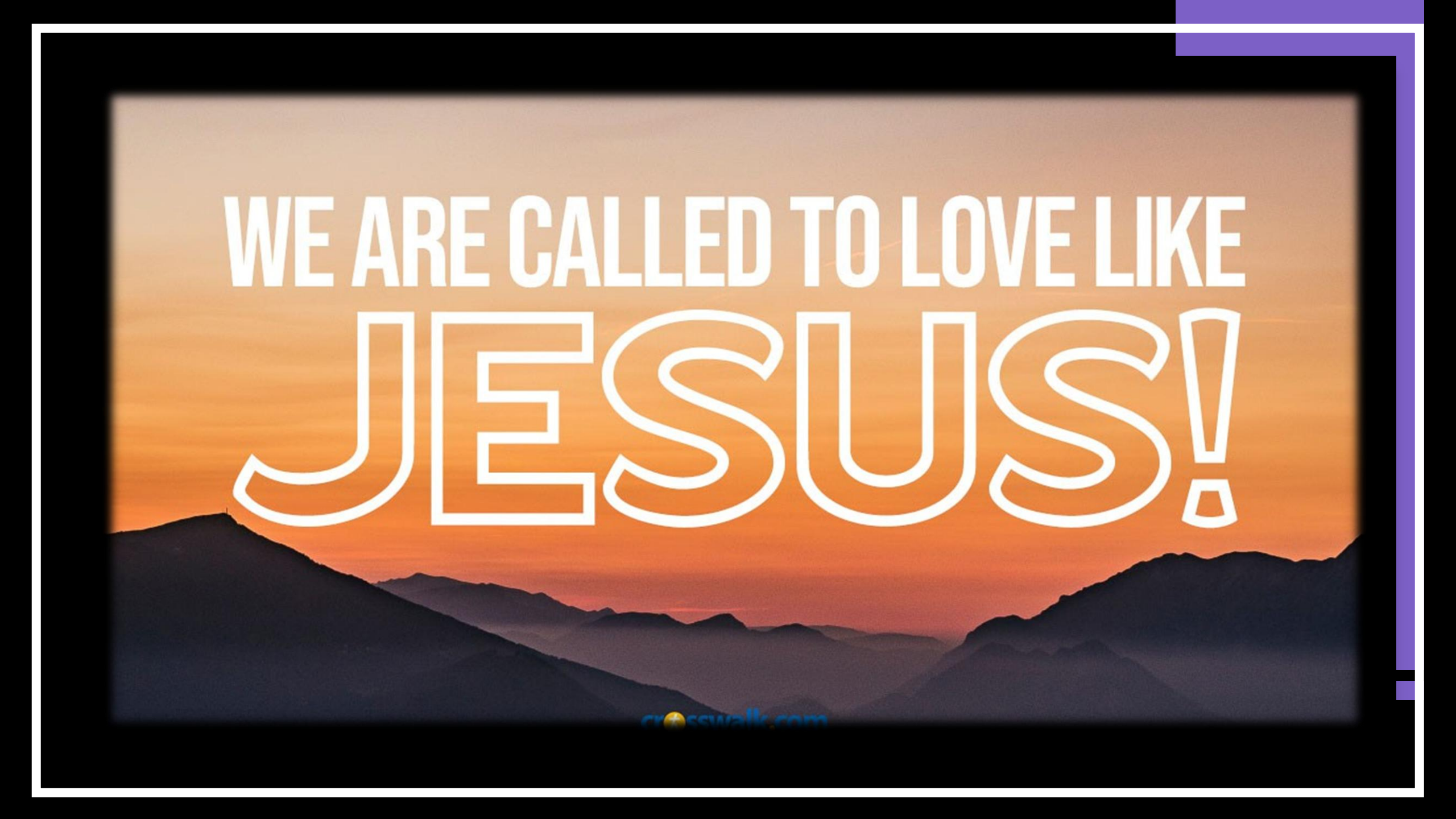
The Birth of the Savior

- The dawn of God's kingdom

*17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
(2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV)*

O Holy Night

*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
Let all within us Praise His Holy name
Christ is the Lord; O praise His name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim
His power and glory evermore proclaim*



WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE LIKE
JESUS!

We Are Called to Love Like Jesus

- Jesus is the redeemer who breaks the chains of sin & oppression

*36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.
(John 8:36 ESV)*

- All humanity is equal before God

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave[a] nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:28 ESV)

We Are Called to Love Like Jesus

- Jesus brings peace to the earth through His love

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” (Luke 2:13-14 ESV)

We Are Called to Love Like Jesus

- The Name of Jesus is Powerful and Worthy of Praise

9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(Philippians 2:9-11 ESV)

We Are Called to Love Like Jesus

- The gospel calls us to love one another as Jesus loved us
34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”
(John 13:34-35 ESV)

Practical Applications

- Emulate Christ's humility by serving others, acknowledging that God values a humble spirit.
- Share the message of Jesus' love & salvation with others in your community, especially those who feel isolated.
- Actively seek ways to promote peace & reconciliation among your neighbors & within your family.
- Let the joy of Jesus' first coming inspire hope as you await His promised return.

Discussion Questions

- How does the message of Jesus' birth in "O Holy Night" inspire hope & peace in your life today?
- What does the phrase "fall on your knees" mean to you, and how do you practice reverence in your daily life?
- How can the light of Christ help you navigate challenges or hardships you face in this season of life?
- When have you experienced this kind of hope in your faith journey?

O Holy Night

O Holy Night

*Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming
Here come the Wise Men from Orient land
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger
In all our trials born to be our friend
He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend*



HOPE

OF THE WORLD

Hope of the World

- God identifies with the lowly & oppressed

7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. (Luke 2:7 ESV)

- The hope of redemption is extended to all, especially to those weary, marginalized & burdened by sin

28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28 ESV)

Hope of the World

- The "thrill of hope" aligns with the rest & renewal found in Jesus
- His arrival signifies the breaking of chains & freedom for the oppressed

1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; (Isaiah 61:1 ESV)

Hope of the World

- Jesus is the Liberator of both spiritual and physical bondage
- In Him, the value of every soul is affirmed & justice is established

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:28 ESV)

Hope of the World

- The stanza emphasizes the inherent dignity of all humanity, a key message of the Gospel
- The coming of Jesus inspires worship & calls humanity to respond in adoration and service

10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:10-11 ESV)