



#59952

## A Christian Reading on the Twelve Days of Christmas

*Three Leaders are needed. The song may be sung before or after the sketch.*

**Leader 1:** No one knows for sure why the song, *The Twelve Days of Christmas* was written. Legend states, *The Twelve Days of Christmas* was written to help Christian children learn about the Bible during a time of persecution in 16<sup>th</sup> century England.

**Leader 2:** *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.* Ephesians 2:8-9

**Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* On the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Christmas, my True Love gave to me.

**Leader 1:** My True Love is the Lord God Himself – the giver of all good gifts.

**Leader 2:** *I have loved you with an everlasting love. Jeremiah 31:3 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.* John 15:13

**Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* A partridge in a pear tree.

**Leader 1:** The Partridge in a Pear Tree is symbolic of Jesus and the wooden cross on which He died. A partridge will give its life to protect its chicks.

**Leader 2:** *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.* John 3:16

**Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* Two Turtledoves

**Leader 1:** The Two Turtledoves can represent the Old and New Testaments, God's holy and sacred Word.

**Leader 2:** *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.* 2 Timothy 3:16

**Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* Three French Hens

- Leader 1:** Three French Hens can represent the three theological virtues: Faith, Hope and Love
- Leader 2:** *And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.* 1 Corinthians 13:13
- Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* Four Calling Birds
- Leader 1:** Four Calling Birds may represent the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. They each CALL to us and tell us of the love of Jesus.
- Leader 2:** *... these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.* John 20:31
- Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* Five Golden Rings
- Leader 1:** The Five Golden Rings represent the first five books of the Old Testament: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. These five books of the Bible were given by God through Moses. All of God's Word is precious and priceless.
- Leader 2:** *The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold; than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb.* Psalm 19:9b-10
- Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* Six Geese a-Laying
- Leader 1:** Six Geese a-Laying represent the six days of creation when God created the world and everything in it.
- Leader 2:** *God saw all that He had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day.* Genesis 1:31  
*For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but He rested on the seventh day.* Exodus 20:11a
- Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* Seven Swans a-Swimming
- Leader 1:** Seven Swans a-Swimming can represent seven gifts of the Holy Spirit spoken of in Romans chapter 12.
- Leader 2:** *We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.* Romans 12:6-8

**Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* Eight Maids a-Milking

**Leader 1:** The Eight Maids a-Milking remind us of the eight Beatitudes in the book of Matthew, the first Gospel in the Bible.

**Leader 2:** *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.  
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.  
Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.  
Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:3-10*

**Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* Nine Ladies Dancing

**Leader 1:** Nine Ladies Dancing represent the nine fruit of the Holy Spirit.

**Leader 2:** *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22-23*

**Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* Ten Lords a-Leaping

**Leader 1:** Ten Lords a-Leaping bring to mind the Ten Commandments. Our loving Heavenly Father gave us the Ten Commandments to show us how to live in ways that are pleasing to Him. They enable us to live our lives in ways that are safe and healthy to us, both spiritually and physically.

**Leader 2:** *You shall have no other gods.  
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.  
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.  
Honor your father and your mother.  
You shall not murder.  
You shall not commit adultery.  
You shall not steal.  
You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.  
Exodus 20:3-17*

**Leader 3:** *(Sing or speak)* Eleven Pipers Piping

- Leader 1:** Eleven Pipers Piping can remind us that we should constantly and frequently praise the Lord and give Him the thanks and the glory and honor due Him.
- Leader 2:** *Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before His presence with singing. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations.* Psalm 100:1-2, 4-5
- Leader 3:** (*Sing or speak*) Twelve Drummers Drumming
- Leader 1:** Twelve Drummers Drumming remind us of the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles' Creed.
- Leader 2:** *I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.*
- And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.*
- I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.*
- Leader 1:** That's our Christian version of the song, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. Perhaps the next time you hear it or sing it, you will use it as a reminder of God's love and care for us shown throughout the Bible.

All Scripture is from NIV