Mother: So you see, that is the story of the very first Christmas.

Boy: I still don't understand. What do Christmas decorations have to do with the real meaning of Christmas?

Mother: I will show you. For instance, the pure green colour of the fir tree remains green all year round, representing the everlasting hope of mankind. And all the needles point heavenward, as a symbol of man's thoughts turning toward heaven.

Girl: (holding star) And the star, what does this mean?

Mother: The star was a heavenly sign of promises long ago. God promised a Saviour for the world and the star was the sign of fulfilment of that promise.

Children and Father start to listen closer and become more interested.

Mother: Let's see (looking through ornaments and finding a candle) and a candle, this symbolises that Christ is the light of the world, and when we see this great light we are reminded of him.

Boy: (holding Santa ornament) Mum what about this? What does he have to do with it?

Father: I know this one. Santa Claus represents generosity and good will we feel during the month of December.

Girl: How about the wreath? (Holds up wreath)

Mother: Well, the wreath symbolizes the eternal nature of love. Real love never ceases. Love is one continuous round of affection.

Mother: And Presents represent our Heavenly Father's gift to us as said in John 3:16 "God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son". – And also the wise men bowed before the baby Jesus and presented Him with gold, frankincense and myrrh. We give gifts in the same spirit as them to show our gratitude and love towards each other.

Girl: But what about a candy cane?

Boy: Yeah right, that doesn't mean anything silly it's just candy.

Mother: Oh but it does have a meaning. The candy cane represents the shepherd's crook. The crook on the shepherd's staff helps bring back strayed sheep from the flock.

Father: (Holding up Angel) Do you remember when your mum gave us this on our first Christmas?

Mother: Oh yes, so beautiful……..now remember, it was the angels that announced the glorious news of the Saviour's birth.

Girl: (A bell rings – Girl holding bell) And this. What does this mean Mum?

Mother: Bells are used to so sheep are not lost, and Shepard's find them by their sound. So the bell symbolizes guidance and return.

Mother: So from now on when you see these things at Christmas time I hope that they will remind you of the true meaning of Christmas, Jesus Christ.