DIG DEEPER

 ESCAPE TO EGYPT

Years 3-6

**Read**:

“Why, my soul, are you downcast?

Why so disturbed within me?

Put your hope in God,

for I will yet praise him,

my Saviour and my God.”

Psalm 42:5

**Teach**: Despite difficult circumstances, when we declare God’s praises and sing out our love for Him hope rises in our hearts.

**Discuss**: Have you ever been through difficult circumstances where you’ve cried out to God? What happened?

**Teach**: Christmas carols have rich associations with the sights, smells and sounds of the season, but they are also resonant with powerful truths. Songs like “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” proclaim Jesus’ identity as the Messiah, and the reason why He came: “Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.”

**Explore**: Print and display the words to the hymn “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Find:

* How the song identifies and describes Jesus
* The reasons why He came to earth

Do the same with the following Christmas carols (you can choose your own):

* Once in Royal David’s City
* O Little Town of Bethlehem
* See Him Lying on a Bed of Straw (Calypso Carol)
* O Holy Night

**Share**: One Egyptian viewer of SAT-7’s show *Keep on Singing* wrote to tell us, “I watched one of your songs for the first time while I was going through a very hard time, and I felt the voice of the Lord speaking to me through it. I pray that the song will be a message of comfort to anyone who is afraid or troubled.”

**Extra Challenge**: Find other songs that identify Jesus and give the reason why He came to earth. Perhaps you can display all the names given to Jesus through song, and the way in which songs express His purpose and mission.