

Lesson 48: CHRISTMAS BELLS
Zechariah 14

INTRODUCTION AND DISCUSSION:

What do bells have to do with Christmas? When Christmas is near, you sure see and hear a lot of bells around. You see bells on Christmas trees and in other Christmas decorations. You hear bell sounds in Christmas music. Can you think of any Christmas songs that have the word “bells” in them?

Merry Christmas Bells are Ringing
So Sweet and Clear (the Christmas bells ring far and near)
Why Do Bells for Christmas Ring?
I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day
Ding Dong Merrily on High (in Heaven the Bells are Ringing)
Jingle Bells
Silver Bells

But do bells have anything to do with the birth of the Lord? Well actually, they do! We don't know of any earthly bells that were ringing right when the Lord was born on earth, but it's likely that heavenly bells were ringing. The beautiful sound that bells make represents something heavenly.

Bells often seem to be calling. It used to be that many churches had bells in their towers, which would ring to call people to come to church. The sounds of bells catch our attention with their beauty, and this is because the sounds of bells represent truth about the Lord that He wants to teach to us.

There's a prophecy in the book of Zechariah that says:

(WRITE ON THE CHALK BOARD)

In that day, “Holiness to Jehovah” shall be on the bells of the horses.”
Zechariah 14:20

In the Word, whenever it says “In that day,” it means the time that the Lord will come to the earth, as He did on Christmas. The “bells of the horses” represent how the Lord, when He came, would call everyone to Him, to teach them new things about Himself. He would teach them new things about the “Holiness of Jehovah,” because of course, the Lord was Jehovah come to earth.

So whenever you see or hear Christmas bells this season, imagine that the sounds of bells are calling us all to come learn more about the Lord, and to find joy in his birth. For this truly is the message of Christmas bells.

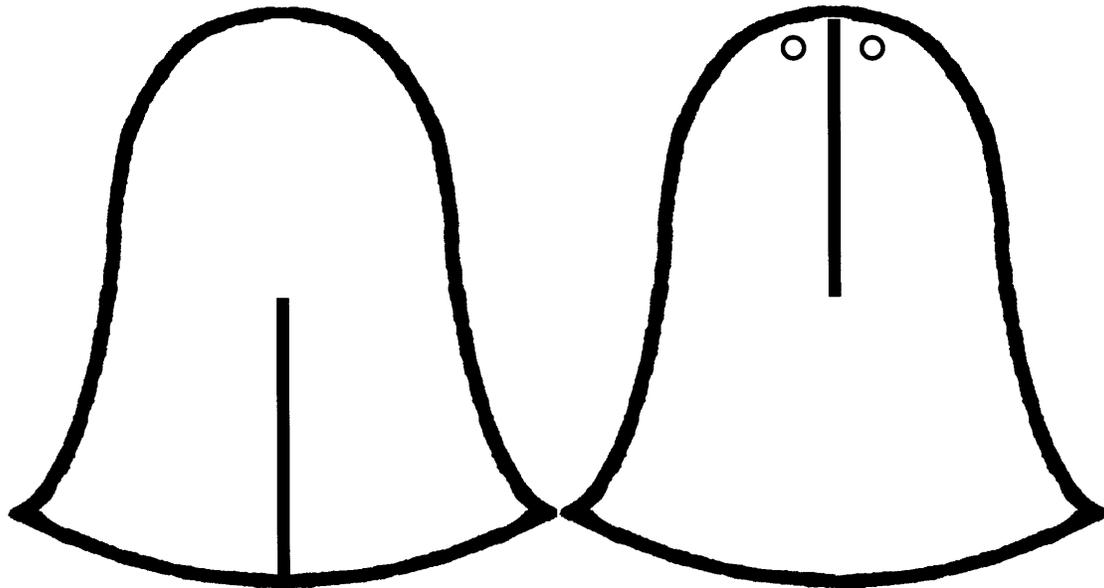
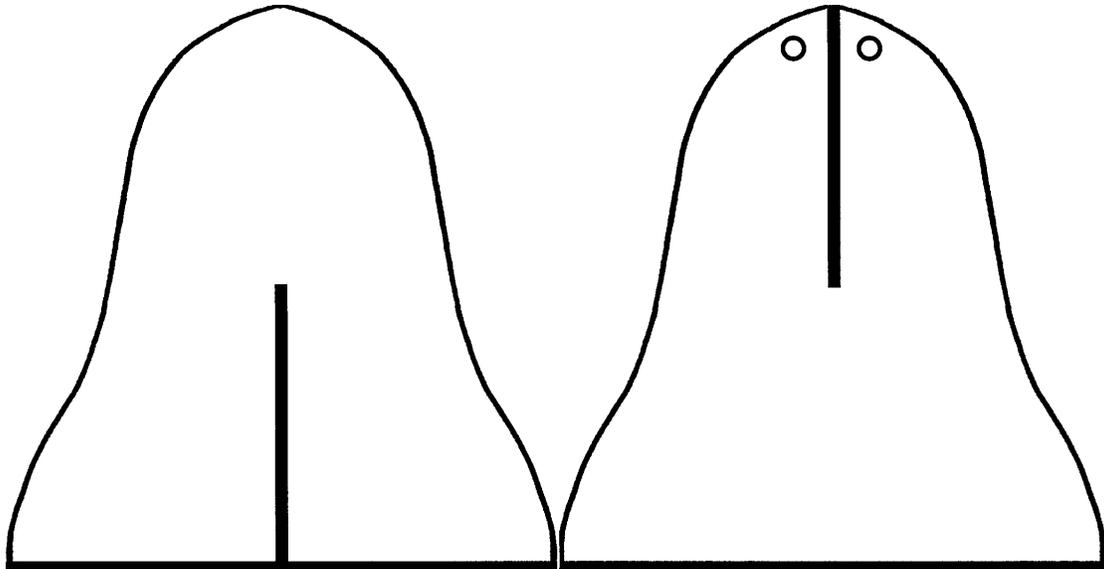
PROJECT: INTERLOCKING BELLS

Instructions:

1. Photocopy the Interlocking Bell Patterns onto stiff paper (card stock), or trace them onto construction paper. Cut out along solid black line. Then cut along the solid black line from the edge of the bell to the center.
2. Punch out or otherwise make two holes where indicated by small circles.
3. Decorate the bells with colored pencils, markers, gel pens, metallic pens, glitter, etc.
4. Put the two halves together by sliding the slits into each other until it makes a three dimensional bell.
5. Tie each end of a 3-5" piece of string into each hole to make a loop to hang it from.

**Project
Template**

Interlocking Bell Patterns



PROJECT: STAINED GLASS STAR

Instructions:

1. Cut out star on solid line.
2. Cut out the inside of the star along to dotted line to leave a star frame
3. Cut several colors of tissue paper into small shapes
4. Lay a sheet of smooth cloth on an ironing board and place a 12"x12" sheet of wax paper on the cloth. Place the small pieces of tissue paper on the wax paper to create a "stained glass" design. Do not leave any blank spaces except near the very edge. Gently place another piece of wax paper over the tissue paper and cover with another piece of smooth cloth.
5. Gently iron over the cloth so the wax paper melts onto the tissue paper. Flip over and do the other side if needed. Let cool
6. Glue the star frame to the wax and tissue "stained glass". When the glue dries trim the "stained glass" around the edges of the frame. Hang and enjoy.

**Project
Template**

Stained Glass Star

