***Special Delivery***

**Object:** Students move a round Christmas ornament from one location to a target location by fanning it with a gift box. This can be run in relay style or as an individual challenge. Relay style instructions are included below.

**Supplies:**

1 round Christmas ornament per participant (plastic, if possible); 1 shirt-size gift box (wrapped or printed); large room or gym

**Preparation:**

* Designate a starting point and ending point for each team.
* Divide the group into teams of 4–6 preteens.
* Give each team a gift box and a Christmas ornament.

**How to Play:**

* Explain that one preteen from each team will make a ‘special delivery’ by moving the ornament from the starting area to the target area by fanning it with the gift box.
* Neither the preteen, nor the gift box can touch the ornament at any time.
* As each student reaches the finish line or target area, he/she picks up the ornament and races back to tag the next person on their team.
* The next person takes the box and ornament and repeats the challenge.
* The first team to complete the challenge is declared the winner.
* Get everybody in position and start fanning!

***Break It Down***

**Scripture:** Luke 2:1–4 (Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem)

**Main Point:** This challenge is tough. The ornament doesn’t always go where you want it to go. And it doesn’t really get it to roll in a straight line.

Mary’s and Joseph’s trip to Bethlehem was tough, too! They didn’t travel an easy path, either. Nazareth is about 100 miles from Bethlehem, and even today, that’s a pretty good road trip. Now, imagine that trip on a donkey! Plus, Mary was pregnant and ready to give birth! To make matters even more difficult, the road was crazy rough with hills and valleys and rocks! It was no easy trip to make. At best, it took 4 or 5 days.

You can bet Mary was praying to God for the trip to go quickly and for smooth roads. She had a very ‘special delivery’ to make. Jesus was just days from being born. So, the next time you find yourself on one of life’s rough roads, do the exact same thing Mary did. Pray!