



FAMILY ADVENT

2024

## Advent

**the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event**

This Christmas we'll join with Christians from across the globe to celebrate Advent. Advent reflects upon the time of waiting for the first coming of Jesus.

Jesus arrived with humility, as a helpless child, to save His people and the world. Advent also tells a story of prophecy, fulfillment, and God's faithfulness to His people.

This Christmas, we'll prepare our hearts by reflecting on our need for a Savior and looking forward to the second coming of Jesus. Advent makes our celebration of Jesus' birth on Christmas day even more spectacular and meaningful.

Practicing Advent as a family is simple: each Sunday, light a candle, read a scripture passage, reflect on it together, enjoy a Christmas hymn and do an activity. (You'll start with one candle on the first week and end with five lit candles on Christmas Day.)

Spend time together to marvel at His eternal offer of hope, peace, love, and joy!

ADVENT • WEEK 1



H O P E

confident expectation of what God has promised;  
looking forward to something yet to come

## Hope

### Read

Isaiah 7:14 • Micah 5:2–4 • Matthew 1:18–25 • Matthew 2:1–6

### Discuss

Why is waiting for something you really want so difficult?

What did the prophets say about the coming Messiah?

How did Jesus bring hope to the world?

How can our family bring hope to others?

### Listen

O Holy Night

### Do

Make Christmas cards or ornaments for family and friends.



ADVENT • WEEK 2



PEACE

in Hebrew "shalom", which means  
"completeness, wholeness and well-being"

## Peace

### Read

Isaiah 9:6–7 • Luke 2:4–14 • Romans 5:1–9

### Discuss

Where do you notice a lack of peace in the world?

When do you personally feel a lack of peace?

Based on these passages, how does Jesus bring peace to people?

How can our family experience more peace?

### Listen

Silent Night

### Do

Give a gift to those in need. (Support a non-profit, serve together, donate an item or toy, etc.)



ADVENT • WEEK 3



J

O

Y

a deep sense of delight and well-being  
that goes beyond our circumstances

## Joy

### Read

Psalm 67 • Isaiah 12 • Luke 2:15–21 • 1 Peter 1:8–9

### Discuss

When have you experienced a deep sense of delight?

How does Jesus bring good news of great joy that is available to all people?

How do you see joy change the shepherds?

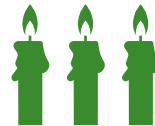
How can we share our joy with others?

### Listen

Joy to the World

### Do

Go look at Christmas lights or sing a carol to your neighbor.



ADVENT • WEEK 4



LOVE

the act of putting others before oneself,  
serving their interests and well-being  
with generosity, kindness and patience

## Love

### Read

Exodus 34:6–7 • John 3:16–17 • I John 4:7–12

### Discuss

What makes you feel loved by others?

How did God demonstrate His love to the world?

Why is love better expressed in actions than just words?

How can you practically show God's love this week?

### Listen

Away in a Manger

### Do

Decorate Christmas cookies and decide who to share them with.



ADVENT • CHRISTMAS DAY



B O R N

Immanuel means "God with us".  
Jesus is with us always, to the end.

## Born

### Read

Luke 2:4–7 • Matthew 2:9–12

### Discuss

How did Jesus come in an unexpected way?

Why is Jesus' birth so important?

How is the presence of God in our lives the greatest gift of all?

What gift can we give to Jesus to express our gratitude?

### Listen

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

### Do

Make a "Thank You, Jesus" poster for everyone to write on and express their gratitude.

