



# AN ADVENT JOURNEY

DISCOVERING

*God's hope, peace, joy  
and love*

THROUGH SCRIPTURE

2023

# Isaiah 9:2-7

*The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shone.  
You have multiplied the nation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.  
For the yoke of his burden,  
and the staff for his shoulder,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult  
and every garment rolled in blood  
will be burned as fuel for the fire.  
For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
and his name shall be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and of peace  
there will be no end,  
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,  
to establish it and to uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.*



AN  
ADVENT  
JOURNEY

# Week 1

## A FAMILY ADVENT JOURNEY

### December 3-9



#### Sunday

**What do you think is the story of the Bible?**

The Advent and Christmas season makes up God's larger story. Within this story, we see that God loves us and has a plan to rescue us from our sin and disobedience.

Isaiah 9:2; John 8:1,2; Hebrews 11:3-2 and 12:1-2



#### Monday

**Throughout Advent, how can you remind yourself that God is the creator of the world?**

God created us to be like Himself in so many ways. And the most important way He made us was to enjoy relationships.

Genesis 1:24-31



#### Tuesday

**What does the color purple represent?**

During the time of Christ, purple was a royal color, worn mostly by kings and rulers.

John 18:37; Hebrews 1:1-4



#### Wednesday

**Is there anything in your life right now that feels broken or not right?**

Because of sin, Adam and Eve had to leave the garden and no longer had a perfect relationship with God.

Genesis 3:1-21



#### Thursday

**What doubts currently exist in your life that seem impossible?**

God created a unique promise with Abraham that he would soon become the father of many nations. If God is powerful enough to overcome Abraham's doubts, how much more is He able to overcome our own doubts!

Genesis 12:1-7



#### Friday

**Why do you think we give gifts at Christmas?**

Remember that you gave gifts out of love - how much more must God love us to give us His Son, Jesus!

Luke 12:6-38; Matthew 13:24



#### Saturday

**Why do you think we have traditions?**

Advent season is full of traditions. Traditions help us remember things in the past as we celebrate those things today.

Hebrews 11:1; Psalms 27:14, 130:5

## THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE



# Week 2

## A FAMILY ADVENT JOURNEY

### December 10-16



#### Sunday

If you knew Jesus was visiting your house tomorrow, how would you prepare for His arrival?

It is important to remember that this time is one of preparation. Just as a family prepares for a guest to visit, so we prepare our hearts and lives for the celebration of Christ as a child.

John 3:16-17; Mark 13:4



#### Monday

What similarities do you see in Joseph's story with the story of Jesus?

Throughout his life, Joseph experienced a variety of painful and difficult times. But God had a plan for him. God used Joseph to interpret dreams, help a whole nation prepare for famine, and save millions of lives.

Genesis 37:23-28; 50:15-21



#### Tuesday

What are some of the ways that you fail to follow your parents' rules? What about God's commands?

God knew from the beginning we could never perfectly follow the Ten Commandments or any rule He created. That's because He cares far more about our obedience, faith, and belief in Him than our ability to follow rules.

Deuteronomy 32:7; 5:1-20



#### Wednesday

Have you ever needed to be rescued? Or have you ever been rescued?

The Bible says that Rahab and her family were saved because of her faith. The good news is that we can be saved by our faith in Jesus too.

Joshua 2:1-24



#### Thursday

How has God reminded you of His faithfulness?

The story of Ruth and Boaz's family is one of God's promises. Even though Ruth might not have seen God's plan, that didn't mean that God wasn't working the whole time. And the same is true in our own lives.

Ruth 1:16 - 2:33



#### Friday

What are some of the things you wish others saw in you? Do you think God sees those things?

For most of his life, David was an often overlooked shepherd boy. But God looked beyond what everyone else saw. God saw David's character and heart.

1 Samuel 16:1-13



#### Saturday

What are some ways that you can surprise others?

God showed His love for humankind through the gift of His Son. One of the ways that people can show their love for each other is to send Christmas cards.

John 13:34; 1 John 4:7-12

## LORD OF LORDS



# Week 3

## A FAMILY ADVENT JOURNEY

### December 17-23



#### Sunday

**What does it mean to choose God's way?**

John the Baptist was a messenger who "prepared the way" for Jesus' ministry. When John told people about Jesus' arrival, he spoke with joy that Jesus was coming soon!

Isaiah 44:23; Romans 5:1-2



#### Monday

**How can you be a light to the world and your friends?**

One of the most visible symbols in Advent is a candle. Throughout the Bible, God compares Himself to light. In some descriptions, He even refers to Christians as the light of the world.

John 12:45-46; 2 Corinthians 4:5-6



#### Tuesday

**How did God make a sacrifice by sending Jesus to earth?**

Centuries before Jesus would be born, Esther trusted God's plan for her life and generations to follow. Even though Esther couldn't see the big picture, God could.

Esther 4:1-7



#### Wednesday

**Why do we celebrate Christmas for a month?**

Little did Zechariah and Elizabeth know that God was preparing the world for Jesus' arrival. Similarly, in Advent we prepare for a new season in our hearts and lives.

Luke 1:5-25



#### Thursday

**Why do we emphasize evangelizing to others during Christmas?**

John the Baptist is a part of God's larger plan to save the world from sin. And we can be a part of that plan too.

Matthew 3:1-2



#### Friday

**What does Christmas mean to you?**

As Christmas draws closer, consider gathering your family together to create a poster that demonstrates what you believe is the real meaning of Christmas. Encourage your kids to honestly consider what Christmas means to them.

Luke 4:18-21; Matthew 23:9



#### Saturday

**What do you think the shepherds thought when they saw the angels in the sky?**

Not only does God keep His promise to Mary and Joseph and the prophets, but He welcomes in lowly shepherds to celebrate Jesus' birth. If God cares this much about a group of shepherds, how much does He also care about us?

Luke 2:8-14

## THE BREAD OF LIFE



# Week 4

## A FAMILY ADVENT JOURNEY

### December 24-25



#### Sunday

What is one thing that you've learned about God during this Advent season?

All of the prophecies and stories about the Messiah throughout the Bible point to Jesus' eventual birth. Even though Advent ends at midnight on Christmas Eve, the promises and hope of the Christmas story are far from over.

*Psalm 33:20*



#### Monday

Before you begin opening presents and celebrating with your family and friends, take a moment to pray and thank God for this good news and great joy. Consider pausing to reflect on how God has blessed you and your family. Let this Christmas Day be a celebration of the true gift that God has given to the whole world.

*Luke 2:1-21*

EMMANUEL



*John 1:14*

*The Word  
became flesh  
and made his  
dwelling  
among us.*





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