

Celebrating Advent

CREATING TRADITIONS FOR YOUR FAMILY

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE ADVENT?

- In the midst of our busy, commercialized world, Advent is a time for your family to focus on the true meaning of Christmas.
- Practicing Advent builds anticipation - not just for Christmas morning and gifts under the tree, but for the coming of Christ & celebrating his birth.
- It's a great way to build faith practices into your family's routine. By the end of Advent, taking time to focus on Jesus will become a habit that you can carry into the new year.

WHERE DO WE START?

Celebrating Advent is about establishing a tradition or routine that your family can commit to practicing during each day of the season.

Your tradition can be as simple or elaborate as you want it to be. The important thing is that whatever you decide to do, you remain consistent during the season. Only you know your family, your schedules & your personalities. Here are several options to celebrate Advent for every type of family, in every stage of life.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Inside this kit you will find an Advent wreath your family can make together and 24 days of Christmas carols, an Advent activity for the whole family.

24 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS FAMILY ADVENT ACTIVITIES

One of the greatest highlights of the Christmas season is the festive and cheerful music. The words can be taken for granted though. Take a journey through the songs of the season this Advent to help your family focus on Jesus.

Listen to the Christmas song listed for each day, and read the accompanying Scripture passage. Make time to pray together. Then, use the suggestions depending on the age group of your family.

Babies & Toddlers

Listen, sing and dance to the song! Exclaim the truth, "Jesus is coming!"

Preschoolers & Lower Elementary

Have them illustrate a truth from the song in a drawing, or create a dance to go with the song. Ask them "What does this song tell us about Jesus?" Have a discussion and hear their answers.

Upper Elementary & Preteens

Read the Scripture listed with the song. Let them create a picture, dance, skit or just a written response to the song. Ask them what the song and Bible verse tell them about Jesus.

Preteens & Teenagers

Get them to use the Internet to research the song! Find different versions, why it was written and how it has been used over the years. Discuss what in the song is significant in regards to the season of Advent, and what it tells us about Jesus.



SONGS

Day 1: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" by Bethel Kids
(Isaiah 7:14)

Day 2: "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" by Chris Tomlin
(Luke 1:68-69)

Day 3: "Joy to the World" by Paul Baloche
(Psalm 98)

Day 4: "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear" by MercyMe
(Luke 2:13-14)

Day 5: "O Come All Ye Faithful" by Casting Crowns
(Psalm 95:6)

Day 6: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" by Kari Jobe
(Micah 5:2)

Day 7: "Angels from the Realms of Glory" by Paul Baloche
(Matthew 2:2)

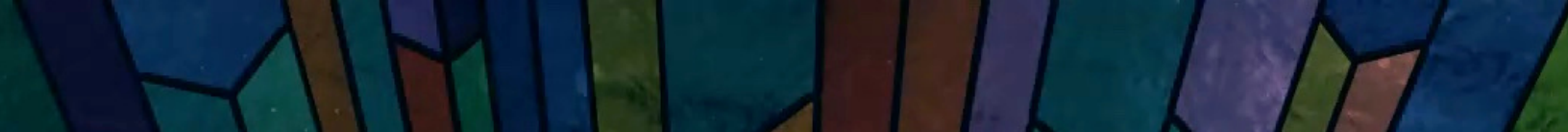
Day 8: "While Shepherds Watched" by God's Kids Worship
(Luke 2:8-9)

Day 9: "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" by Meredith Andrews
(Titus 3:4-7)

Day 10: "Go Tell it On The Mountain" by Seabird
(Matthew 28:19)

Day 11: "The First Noel" by Lauren Daigle
(Matthew 2:11)

Day 12: "Angels We Have Heard on High" by For King & Country
(Psalm 103:20-22)



Day 13: "Away in A Manger" by Yancy
(Luke 2:6-7)

Day 14: "We Three Kings" by Tenth Avenue North
(Psalm 72:10)

Day 15: "What Child is This?" by Mandisa
(Luke 1:66)

Day 16: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" by Paul Baloche
(Philippians 2:5-7)

Day 17: "Love Came Down at Christmas" by High Street Hymns
(Hosea 14:4)

Day 18. "Ding Dong Merrily on High" by Rend Collective
(Luke 2:13-14)

Day 19: "The Little Drummer Boy" by For King & Country
(Luke 21:3-4)

Day 20: "The Friendly Beasts" by Rebecca St. James
(Matthew 1:23)

Day 21: "O Holy Night" by Hillsong
(Luke 1:35)

Day 22: "Silent Night" by Tori Kelly
(2 Corinthians 4:6)

Day 23: "Mary, Did You Know?" by Mark Lowry
(Revelation 5:9)

Day 24: "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" by Casting Crowns
(Luke 2:13-14)