

Advent



Advent is a special time to celebrate the first coming of Jesus while eagerly anticipating his return. Advent means *coming* and is a season to thank God for the birth of Jesus and for his presence among us today through the promised Holy Spirit, while also preparing our hearts for his arrival at the end of the age. Our prayer this Advent season is that you will continue to lead your children to Jesus and his Word, join him in loving others, and empower your children to take ownership of their faith.

Week 1

CHRISTMAS IS...

Hope



READ: Isaiah 9:2

REFLECT God's perfect creation had been corrupted by sin, but God promised to rescue us from our rebellion. We can have hope knowing that this righteous, coming King will rule justly and reign forever, bringing people out of darkness and into the light.

EXPERIENCE Talking with the Lord: What can we thank God for in this verse? Pray the Include Me Prayer, and ask Jesus how you can reflect his light this season.

Week 2

CHRISTMAS IS...

Peace



READ: Luke 2:10-14

REFLECT Hallelujah from the heavenly hosts! Mankind could now find peace through faith in their Savior, but not peace like the world expects. Jesus tells us that his peace transcends all understanding and guards our hearts and minds.

EXPERIENCE Listening to the Lord for Freedom: Biblical peace is more than just the absence of conflict; it is taking action to restore a broken situation. It's more than a state of inner tranquility; it's a state of wholeness and completeness. Demonstrate with your child the freedom tools that they can use to experience God's peace. In prayer, have your child ask, "Is there a lie I am believing about myself or a sin to confess so that peace can be restored?"

Week 3

CHRISTMAS IS...

Joy



READ: Isaiah 7:14

REFLECT Immanuel, God with us! It had been 400 years since the last prophet had come. The wait was finally over for the rescuer, our Good Shepherd. Jesus wasn't just sent from God; he was God. He would take great joy in saving his people.

EXPERIENCE Talking to others about the Lord: Jesus came to save us because it was his great joy. Likewise, it is our joy to love and serve others. Choose an Outreach opportunity to do together with your family from the list of ministries that CrossBridge supports this Christmas.



OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



SENSORY NEEDS ADVENT SUPPLEMENT

Week 4

CHRISTMAS IS...

Love



READ: 1 John 4:10

REFLECT An extravagant act of love: God sent his only Son to be an atoning sacrifice for all. When we were unlovable, helpless, and sinful, God's heart was moved with compassion. He demonstrated his great love for us on the cross.

EXPERIENCE Listening to the Lord for Loving Others: God calls us to love one another. One way to love others is to encourage, strengthen, and comfort them. As a family, sit together and wait on the Lord for a word of encouragement for each other.

Week 5

CHRISTMAS IS...

Jesus



READ: Isaiah 9:7

REFLECT Unlike earthly rulers who lose their power, God's reign will never end. The rescuer will return and rule as the promised King. Perfect righteousness, justice, and peace will define his eternal kingdom. Get ready. He is coming soon!

EXPERIENCE Listening to the Lord: What is God's purpose in waiting so long to return to earth? (Hint: Read 2 Peter 3:9) As you reflect on Jesus's return, pray and listen. Ask God what he wants you to know while you wait.