



A FAMILY
ADVENT
CALENDAR



Advent is a season of expectation—we're eagerly waiting for Jesus' birth!

These simple, super-doable Advent activities will help your family celebrate the gifts Jesus brings as you create meaningful moments together this Christmas season.

Each week's theme features two repeated Bible verses to read and explore together, plus easy and fun ways to incorporate hope, peace, joy, and love into your family rhythms.

FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

JESUS BRINGS HOPE

01



Read Psalm 33:22.

When we **hope**, we look forward to good things.

What's something good you are looking forward to this week?

02



Make a list of things you **hope** to eat for dinner sometime this week. Then work together to create this week's menu.

03



Read Psalm 33:22.

Join hands so you form a circle. Then pray for people you know who need God's love to surround them and give them **hope**.

04



Find a Christmas song that talks about **hope**. Play the song as you get ready for bed tonight.

05



Read Matthew 12:21.

Name a bunch of countries around the world. Then thank God for the people who live in those places. Ask Jesus to give them **hope** this Christmas.

06



Choose a game you'll play together this weekend. Then look forward to playing together! Who do you **hope** will win?

07



Read Matthew 12:21.

Send someone a Christmas card. Then text or call that person to tell them it's on the way. You'll be giving them something to **hope** for and look forward to!

"Let your unfailing love surround us, Lord, for our hope is in you alone" (Psalm 33:22).

"And his name will be the hope of all the world" (Matthew 12:21).

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

JESUS BRINGS PEACE

08



Read Luke 1:78-79.

Jesus' **peace** brings order and calmness when things feel out of control.

What brings you **peace** when you feel stressed or worried?

09



Before dinner, pause all talking and activity and enjoy a moment or two of quiet **peace**. Then pray and thank God for your food.

10



Read Luke 1:78-79.

Use things like pillows or towels to make a path across the floor. Then follow a leader who'll guide you along the "path of **peace**."

11



Dump out the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle to make a chaotic mess. Then put the puzzle together, bringing order and **peace**!

12



Read Psalm 29:11.

Work together to lift something heavy—like a box of decorations or a family member! Hold the object while thanking God for his strength and **peace**.

13



Have a peace party! Choose a messy room in your house to clean. Play Christmas music as you bring **peace** and order to messiness and chaos.

14



Read Psalm 29:11.

Look through the contact list on a grown-up's phone and choose people to text, "**Peace** to you! We love you."

"Because of God's tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace" (Luke 1:78-79).

"The Lord gives his people strength. The Lord blesses them with peace" (Psalm 29:11).

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

JESUS BRINGS JOY

15



Read Luke 2:10-11.

Joy makes our hearts smile—no matter what is going on. **Joy** comes from knowing how much God loves us.

What else makes your heart smile?

16



Take a walk outdoors to enjoy the fresh air and notice the many wonders that God has created. When someone shouts “**Joy!**” everyone must jump or skip with **joy!**

17



Read Luke 2:10-11.

Make a list of good, **joyful** news you’ve heard this week. Then pray and thank Jesus for good news of great **joy!**

18



Smiles show **joy!** Give your smiles away freely to your classmates, teachers, friends, and your family. Smiles are contagious!

19



Read Psalm 9:2.

Put a little dish soap in a cup, fill it with warm water, and watch it fill up with bubbles! What things fill you up with **joy?**

20



Listen to music today and give thanks to God for the gift of music! Dance, sing, and make a **joyful** noise!

21



Read Psalm 9:2.

Say five things you praise God for, holding up one finger for each thing. Then **joyfully** high-five your family members with “praise hands!”

"But the angel reassured them. 'Don't be afraid!' he said. 'I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!'" (Luke 2:10-11).

"I will be filled with joy because of you. I will sing praises to your name, O Most High" (Psalm 9:2).

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

JESUS BRINGS LOVE

22



Read John 1:14.

God's **love** is unending—it's like a forever hug that will never, ever let us go.

What's something you wish would never stop?

23



Give someone in your family a hug, just because you **love** them.

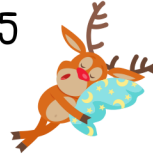
24



Read John 1:14.

"The Word" is Jesus! Invite Jesus to dinner tonight. Set a place for him and take turns telling him what you **loved** about your day, and what you **love** about him!

25



Before you go to bed tonight, say three things that happened in your day that you really **loved**.

26



Read Psalm 106:1.

Then praise God for things you **love**! Call out categories of things to thank God for, like "animals," "food," "people," and "presents."

27



Call a family member who lives far away just to chat and say, "I **love** you."

28



Read Psalm 106:1.

Hum a Christmas song you **love** and have your family guess which song it is. The person who guesses correctly gets to hum next! How long will this "humming game" endure?

"So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unending love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son" (John 1:14).

"Praise the Lord! Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever" (Psalm 106:1).