

NOTE FOR PARENTS

Family Advent Calendar Kit is a resource that will help your family focus on the birth of Jesus this Advent/Christmas season! This kit includes 3 things you can add to your Advent calendar: **Scripture** cards, **Song** cards, and **Service** cards. Each day in Advent (Dec. 1-24, plus an added bonus to use on Christmas Day), your family will read a portion of the Nativity story (Scripture card), then you will also listen to (and sing if you like) a Christmas worship song (Song card), and finally, you will do something that serves God and others (Service card).

This resource includes:

- 1 Family Devotion
- 25 Advent Calendar **Scripture** Cards
- 25 Advent Calendar **Song** Cards
- 25 Advent Calendar **Service** Cards
- 4 Nativity Snack Recipes
- 4 Nativity Coloring Pages

When does Advent begin?

Advent is the first season of the Christian church year that begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. However, because Advent begins on a different day each year, Advent calendars are only 24 days and are meant to be used December 1-24. This kit includes cards for you to begin your calendar on December 1 and end on Christmas Eve.

How do I use the cards?

You will insert 3 cards into your Advent calendar for each day: 1 Scripture card, 1 Song card, and 1 Service card. The Scripture cards are numbered and should go in the appropriate numbered slots in your Advent calendar. You will read the Nativity story in chronological order throughout the days of Advent, so that's why it's important to read those in order. For example, Day 1 Advent Scripture cards will go

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into the Day 1 slot, Day 2 will go into Day 2, etc. The Song and Service cards can go into any day in your Advent calendar, except save the "Happy Birthday Jesus" Song card and the "Pray before you open gifts" Service card for Christmas Day (Day 25).

What do I do with Day 25 cards?

You will be given 25 cards in total. Advent calendars only include 24 days (Dec. 1-24), but you have 1 extra set of each card to do on Christmas Day together. I suggest putting the extra set in a special Christmas envelope (or even wrap it) and place it under the tree. That can be the first thing your family opens and does together on Christmas Day.

When do we do our Advent calendar?

Any time of the day that is best for your family! You can even choose to do each of the three activities at different times throughout the day. Maybe before school you read the Scripture, on your way to school you play the worship song of the day, then after school or at night do the service card. Do these activities at a time of day that works best for your family.

When do we read the Family Devotion?

The Family Devotion is meant to do before Advent begins. It gives your family more details about what Advent is, how the Advent calendar works, and will talk about the birth of Jesus. I would suggest reading this devotion together on November 30th (the day before you begin doing your Advent calendar). This will help your family understand what you will be doing over the course of the next 24 days.

Also included are some fun Nativity recipes you can make with your kids during Advent, as well as some Nativity coloring pages for your kids to color and hang in your home!

FAMILY DEVOTION

Read this devotion with your family on the night of November 30th (which will be the night before you begin using your Advent Calendar).

"But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart." Luke 2:19

When you think about Christmas, what are some things that come to mind?

Your first response might be opening presents! Maybe you also said Christmas lights, candy canes, trees, ornaments, baking cookies, or traveling to visit family.

How many of you said the birth of Jesus? As Christians, it's the whole reason we celebrate Christmas! We don't celebrate because we get gifts, but we celebrate because Jesus was born on this earth as a gift from God to save us from our sins so we could live forever with Him in heaven one day.

As Christians, we also celebrate the season of Advent. This is the first season of the Christian church year that begins four Sundays before Christmas Day and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent begins on a different Sunday each year (due to the way the calendar falls), but for the use of this kit, we will begin celebrating Advent on Dec. 1 and end on Dec. 24.

Advent is a season where we wait for the arrival of Jesus and prepare our hearts for His coming. It's a season to remember the greatest gift we have ever gotten from God, which is Jesus.

Do you know who else remembered God during the time of the birth of Jesus?

Mary!

FAMILY DEVOTION

The Bible tells us that after Jesus was born, the shepherds came to visit Him. They were so excited that they left and went and told everyone about His birth! After they left, Mary began to think about what God had done through her. The Bible says she "treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart" (Luke 2:19).

I think that after Jesus was born, Mary finally realized just how amazing the birth of Jesus was. She had given birth to God's Son, and He would do powerful things while He was here on earth. So she chose to remember all that happened to her during this time: from the angel visiting her, to her visit with her cousin, Elizabeth and her baby leaping in the womb when he heard Mary's voice, to traveling a long way and going into labor when she was not at home, to giving birth in an unexpected place where there were animals, to shepherds visiting her because they had been told of the birth of a Savior. Mary remembered and stored all these things in her heart.

And this is what I want you and your family to do this Advent season. I want you to remember Jesus and His birth and the events that took place during this time. I want you to store all these things in your heart, commit them to your memory, and thank God for Jesus every day.

So here's what your family will do!

For the next 24 days of Advent (Dec. 1-24), your family will be using an Advent calendar to help you remember the birth of Jesus. You will be doing three things to help you remember Jesus each day in Advent:

FAMILY DEVOTION

- Scripture You will be reading part of the Nativity story in the Bible
- Song Your family will sing (or listen to) a Christmas worship song
- Service- You will serve others as that's a way of giving a gift back to Jesus

You will place one of each card in each of the 24 days in your Advent calendar. So each day will have 3 cards (1 Scripture card, 1 Song card, 1 Service card). The Scripture cards are numbered (because you will be reading the Nativity story in order) and should go in the appropriate numbered slot in your Advent calendar. The Song and Service cards are not numbered and can go in any slot, except save the "Happy Birthday Jesus" Song card and the "Pray before you open gifts" Service card for Christmas Day (Day 25).

There's an extra day of cards for your family to read and do on Christmas Day. Your family can decide how you would like to use these cards (as there isn't a space in your Advent Calendar for Christmas Day).

I pray your family will commit to doing these three things each day in Advent. It will help your family not get so wrapped up in the holiday season that you forget about the true meaning of Christmas, which is the birth of Jesus.

Enjoy remembering Jesus and I pray you will store up all these treasures in your heart, just like Mary did!

ADY ENTI-SCRIPTURE CARDS

Advent is a great way to help your family dig into God's Word!

Included are 25 Advent Scripture cards. These cards are designed to use Dec. 1-25. Advent calendars only include 24 days for Advent, but I've included a Scripture card for Christmas Day, too.

Print cards **front and back** (cardstock works best). The cards will have 2 sides. One side will have number of day and other side will have the Scripture to read. **They are laid out to print exactly as they need to be so that the two sides match up. So print the rest of the pages front and back.** Then, cut them out, and place them in your Advent calendar. Each day, pull out a Scripture card, look up the verse in your Bible and read together. These Scripture cards will help your family focus on learning the Word of God during the Advent season!

















kead Luke 1:39-45

kead luke 1:46-56

6

kead luke 1:57-66

Read Luke 1:67-80 kead luke 1:5-25

kead Luke 1:26-28

kead luke 1:29-33

Read Luke 1:34-38

















Read Matthew 1:24-25

> kead luke 2:1-5

Read Luke 2:6-7

kead luke 2:8-9 Read Matthew 1:1-17

Read
Matthew 1:18-19

Read Matthew 1:20-21

Read Matthew 1:22-23

















Read Luke 7:19

> kead luke 2:20

22

Read Luke 2:21-35

Read Luke 2:36-40 Read Luke 2:10-12

Read Luke 7:13-14

kead Luke 2:15-16

kead Luke 2:17-18





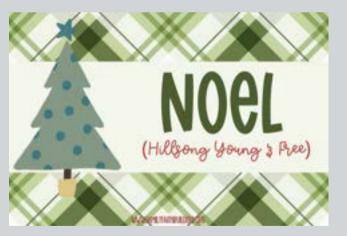
Advent is a great way to help your family sing praises to the Lord!

Included are 25 Advent worship song cards. These cards are designed to use Dec. 1-25. Most calendars only include 24 days for Advent, but I've included a worship song card for Christmas Day, too. The song for Christmas Day is "Happy Birthday Jesus." This is the only card that matters which day you play it. The other songs can be used on any day during Advent.

Print cards (cardstock works best), cut them out, and place them in your Advent calendar. Each day, pull out a worship song card, find the video on YouTube and play that song for your family. You can do it anytime during the day (the car is a great place to play it for everyone). These worship songs will help your family focus on praising the Lord during the Advent season!





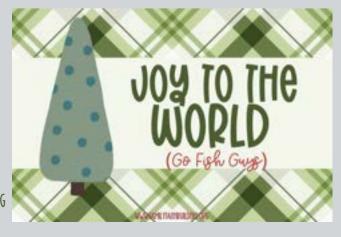
















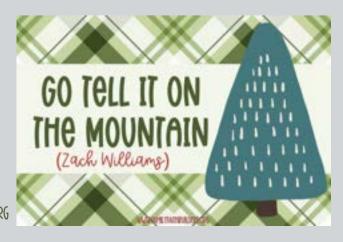






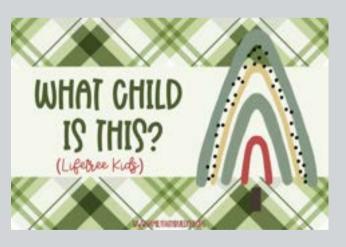












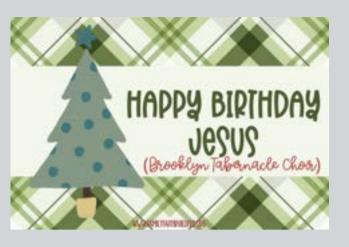












Spotify Playlisthttps://open.spotify.com/playlist/3jdyfRoTOEmvCJpfrLSk4z?si=131bcb3184d84bfd



Add service to God and service to others to your family's Advent celebration!

Included are 25 Advent service cards. These cards are designed to use Dec. 1-25. Most calendars only include 24 days for Advent, but I've included a service card for Christmas Day, too. The card for Christmas Day says "Pray before you open gifts. Give thanks to God for His gift in Jesus." This is the only card that matters which day you do it on. The other cards can be done on any day during Advent.

Print cards (cardstock works best), cut them out, and place them in your Advent calendar. Each day, pull out a service card and do the service idea suggested. Modify if you need to. These acts of service will help your family focus on serving the Lord during the Advent season!









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BRING COFFEE TO YOUR TEACHER



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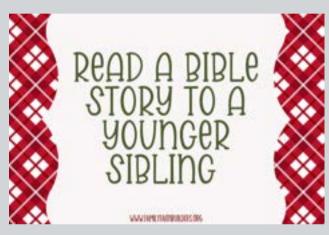




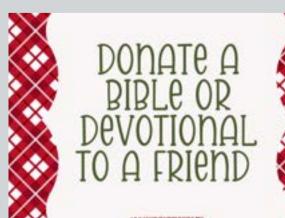










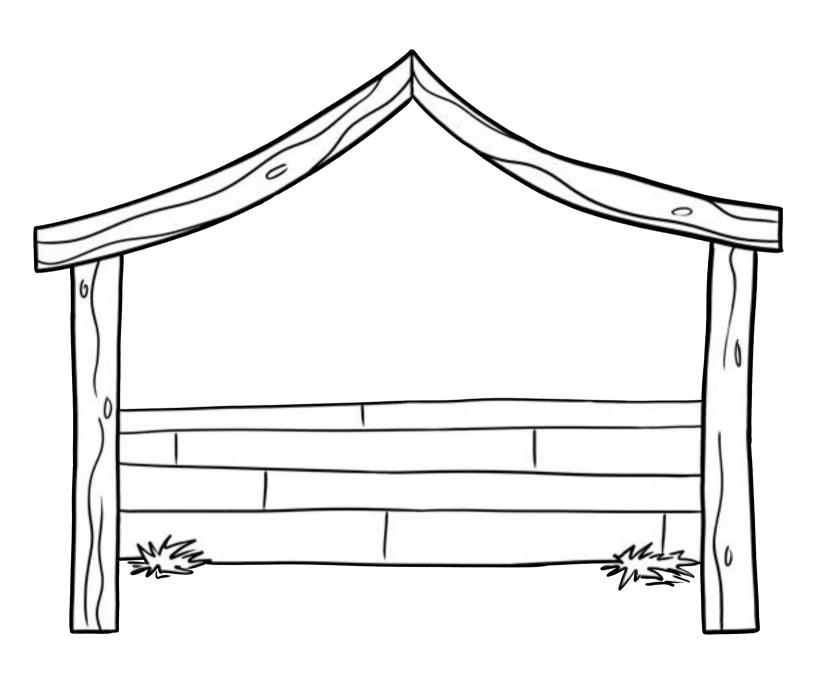


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WAYNETH PRODUCES



Jesus is Born! Draw the missing pieces to the Nativity scene!





ON THE MIGHEST HEAVEN
LUKE 2:14

AND THERE WERE SHEPHERDS LIVING OUT IN THE FIELDS NEARBY, KEEPING WATCH OVER THEIR FLOCKS AT NIGHT. LUKE 2:8



