Children's Worship Bulletins™

MAKE ROOM:
Advent Bible Reading Plan for Families

As you get ready for Christmas, use these brief family devotions to make room in your home and hearts for Jesus. Each day has a Bible passage to read, a topic to discuss, and a simple action to do as a family. Read the verses from a children's Bible or storybook and use a Nativity scene or Advent wreath as visual aids.

WEEK 1: GET READY

Day 1
Luke 2:1-7

Day 2
Psalm 139:23-24

Day 3
Mark 4:3-8, 18-19

Day 4
Luke 10:38-42

Day 5
Matthew 6:31-33

Day 6
Revelation 3:20

Day 7
Isaiah 40:3

WEEK 2: SHARE

Day 1
Matthew 6:19-21

Day 2
Luke 3:11

Day 3
Luke 12:15

Day 4
Philippians 4:11-13

Day 5
Matthew 6:26-29

Day 6
Matthew 11:28-30

Day 7
Mark 6:7-8

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WEEK 3: OBEY

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Luke 1:26-38	Matthew 1:18-24	John 14:15	Philippians 2:5-7

Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
1 Samuel 3:8-10	Matthew 2:1, 11	John 3:30

WEEK 4: CELEBRATE

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Psalm 150	Psalm 46:10	Luke 2:8-15	Matthew 1:23

Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Luke 2:16-19	Isaiah 9:6	John 3:16

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WEEK 1: GET READY

Day 1

Talk about it: Bethlehem was so crowded that Jesus was born in a stable! Is there room for Jesus in our house?

Do it: Set out an empty manger. After each devotion, add a piece of straw or yarn to prepare Jesus' bed.

Day 2

Talk about it: What does God see when he looks in our hearts?

Do it: Place a red heart shape under Jesus' manger. Pray that God fills your hearts this Advent.

Day 3

Talk about it: Jesus warned about "thorns." What chokes out our time with Jesus?

Do it: Cancel one activity this week and spend that time reading the Bible or praying.

Day 4

Talk about it: Is it easier for you to be busy like Martha or still like Mary? Why?

Do it: Skip or share a chore today and instead read a Christmas-themed book together.

Day 5

Talk about it: God knows what we need. What can we trust God to provide?

Do it: Pray, thanking God for taking care of everything he made, including us.

Day 6

Talk about it: What does it look like to let Jesus into our daily life?

Do it: Take turns knocking on a door and answering, "Come in, Jesus!"

Day 7

Talk about it: When it snows, we need to clear a path. What can we clear to make room for Jesus?

Do it: Unplug and play board games or take a nature walk.

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WEEK 2: SHARE

Day 1

Talk about it: What do you treasure? Where does Jesus fit on your list?

Do it: Go through toys and books, choosing some to give to a family in need.

Day 2

Talk about it: How can our family share what we have with others?

Do it: Pick something to donate to a local shelter (coats, blankets, canned food).

Day 3

Talk about it: Why don't earthly things keep us happy for very long?

Do it: Draw pictures of the lasting blessings that God gives (his love, Jesus, heaven).

Day 4

Talk about it: Even when you don't get everything you want, what helps you feel content?

Do it: Take turns sharing blessings that aren't things (a person, a memory, a talent).

Day 5

Talk about it: How have you seen God take care of his creation?

Do it: Set out birdseed or edible outdoor Christmas decorations.

Day 6

Talk about it: What makes you feel tired and worn out?

Do it: Go to bed 30 minutes early. Before lights out, ask Jesus to help you rest in him.

Day 7

Talk about it: What Christmas tradition can we simplify to make it more about Jesus?

Do it: Choose one tradition to adapt or skip to make more room for Jesus.

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WEEK 3: OBEY

Day 1

Talk about it: This news troubled Mary. How did God reassure her?

Do it: Act out this encounter and then talk about how Mary might have felt.

Day 2

Talk about it: Joseph faced a tough decision, but he obeyed God too. How does our family trust and follow God?

Do it: Pray together, "God, help us trust your plan, not our own."

Day 3

Talk about it: Why is obeying God an act of love?

Do it: Play Simon Says and then discuss ways to pay attention and obey.

Day 4

Talk about it: Jesus humbled himself as a servant to help others. How can you put someone else first today?

Do it: Serve someone in your family without telling anyone you did it.

Day 5

Talk about it: Young Samuel paid attention when God spoke to him. How does God speak to us?

Do it: Before bed, sit quietly and pray, "God, what do you want to tell us?"

Day 6

Talk about it: The wise men brought Jesus expensive gifts. Why were they willing to give him something so valuable?

Do it: As a family, discuss what you value most. Would you be willing to give it up for Jesus?

Day 7

Talk about it: John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, shined the spotlight on Jesus. How can we make Jesus the "star" of Christmas?

Do it: Decorate paper stars with glitter and hang them on your Christmas tree.

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WEEK 4: CELEBRATE

Day 1

Talk about it: What's your favorite Christmas carol or hymn?

Do it: Sing some Christmas songs that celebrate Jesus' birth.

Day 2

Talk about it: Celebrations can be peaceful, too. What helps you feel calm and close to God?

Do it: Turn off all lights except the Advent candles or Christmas tree. Enjoy being together.

Day 3

Talk about it: When the shepherds were working, angels shared amazing news. Who can you talk to about Jesus?

Do it: Invite a friend, classmate, or neighbor to a Christmas meal or worship service.

Day 4

Talk about it: Jesus is called Immanuel, meaning "God with us." Why did Jesus come to be with us?

Do it: Before each meal, say, "God is with us" as a family blessing.

Day 5

Talk about it: Mary knew that the birth of Jesus was special. What's your favorite part of learning about Jesus' birth?

Do it: Take turns sharing what you've learned about Jesus this Advent season.

Day 6

Talk about it: Jesus has amazing names, like Prince of Peace. Which name do you like best, and why?

Do it: Look up what your names mean. Celebrate that you are all children of God!

Day 7

Talk about it: God loved us so much that he sent Jesus. Why is Jesus the best gift ever?

Do it: Before opening gifts, place Baby Jesus in the manger and thank God for Jesus.

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