

ADVENT REFLECTIONS GUIDE

Week 1: Wonderful Counselor

Read: Isaiah 9:6, Luke 1:1-38

Light: First advent candle

Reflect/Discuss:

- A Wonderful Counselor is characterized by wise plans and helpful guidance from a good heart. In what ways can you see Christ's Wonderful Counselor nature displayed in His advent?
- The main story arc of the Bible can be summarized as Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Consummation (aka Restoration). How does this big story demonstrate God's wisdom?
- Offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the ways God has been a Wonderful Counselor in your own life.

Additional Family devotion options:

- Read the Jesus Storybook Bible: The Beginning: A perfect home (p 18)
- Sing: O Come, O Come Emmanuel
- Do: Involve your children in planning and completing an activity this week (plan and cook a meal, map out your Christmas lights drive, etc.). Remind your kids that God thought through all of the details to get ready to send Jesus to rescue us from sin.

Week 2: Mighty God

Read: Isaiah 9:6, Luke 1:39-56

Light: Two advent candles

Reflect/Discuss:

- In Luke 1:49-55, what are some examples of God's might that Mary could have been considering?
- He who is mighty has done great things for you as well. How can you praise Him for those things today?

Additional Family devotion options:

- Read the Jesus Storybook Bible: A dream of heaven (p 342)
- Sing: Joy to the World
- Do: Watch a sunrise or sunset together this week. Remind your children that the God who created this whole world chose to come as a baby to rescue His people.



Week 3: Everlasting Father

Read: Isaiah 9:6, Luke 1:57-80

Light: Three advent candles

Reflect/Discuss:

- How does the fact that Jesus Christ is everlasting increase your trust in Him?
- What are you looking forward to about living forever in a perfect world with Christ our King?

Additional Family devotion options:

- Read the Jesus Storybook Bible: A new way to see (p 334)
- Sing: Hark the Herald Angels Sing
- Do: Take a long piece of string and stretch it out. Mark a spot in the middle. Remind your children that our life is just a little moment compared to how long God has existed (eternally forward and backward) and how long we get to enjoy Him into the future.

Week 4: Prince of Peace

Read: Isaiah 9:6, Luke 2:1-20

Light: Four advent candles

Reflect/Discuss:

- Christ's birth did not look like a typical prince's arrival. What was surprising about the birth of the Prince of Peace?
- In what ways is Christ's royal identity revealed in His advent?
- In what ways can you pray for greater peace from Christ? Peace with God, peace in your heart versus fear or anxiety, in friendships, in circumstances, in the world?

Additional Family devotion options:

- Read the Jesus Storybook Bible: He's Here! (p 176)
- Sing: O Come All Ye Faithful
- Do: Look at a nativity scene together, either figurines or a picture. Identify how Christ brings peace to each person. (For the animals, see Isaiah 11:6-9).

