**FAMILY ADVENT READING PLAN**

*Read each Bible story in full text or with your favorite picture Bible such as*[*The Jesus Storybook Bible*](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0310708257/ref%3Das_li_tl?ie=UTF8&camp=1789&creative=9325&creativeASIN=0310708257&linkCode=as2&tag=graformom-20&linkId=19d0224fb5c5d8d027b9de1d89b89c02)*(JSB).*

**WEEK 1: THE STORY**

Our family Advent study starts on December 1 as we begin counting down to Christmas. (Advent traditionally begins on the first Sunday after Thanksgiving or the first Sunday in December.) This first week we’ll discuss Creation, The Fall, the story of Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Joseph, and Moses– foundational people and moments in the Story of faith.

DECEMBER 1: CREATION

(Read Genesis 1-2 or JSB, page 18)

Memory Verse: Psalm 139:13-14

Take Away: God knew you and loved you even before you were born.

DECEMBER 2: THE FALL

(Read Genesis 3 or JSB, page 28)

Memory Verse: 1 John 1:9

Take Away: God forgives our bad choices when we ask him; he loves us no matter what.

DECEMBER 3: NOAH

(Read Genesis 6-9 or JSB, page 38)

Memory Verse: Proverbs 3:5-6

Take Away: When we know the good character of God, we can trust his instructions even when we don’t understand.

DECEMBER 4: ABRAHAM

(Read Genesis 17:1-8 or JSB, page 56)

Memory Verse: Romans 4:16

Take Away: We can wait patiently because God’s promises can be trusted.

DECEMBER 5: ISAAC

(Read Genesis 21:1-21 or JSB, page 58)

Memory Verse: Romans 8:28

Take Away: When we wait on God, we let him write the story of our lives.

DECEMBER 6: JOSEPH

(Read Genesis 37 or JSB, page 76)

Memory Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Take Away: When we understand God’s love, we are thankful and don’t need to compare ourselves to others.

DECEMBER 7: MOSES

(Read Exodus 2-3 or JSB, page 84)

Memory Verse: Psalm 46:1

Take Away: God is always with us.

DECEMBER 8: THE RED SEA MIRACLE

(Read Exodus 14 or JSB, page 92)

Memory Verse: Psalm 91:4

Take Away: Because God is always present in our lives, he knows our needs.

**WEEK 2: THE PROCESS**

Next in our Advent reading, we’ll walk through the process – the lives and stories that tell us more about how and why Jesus came to us on Christmas. From Moses all the way to David, we see the lineage of Jesus; the continuation of his family story. As we enter into each moment of our faith history, we begin to understand God’s process of redemption and his great love for his children.

DECEMBER 9: THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

(Read Exodus 20 or JSB, page 100)

Memory Verse: Psalm 19:8

Take Away: When we follow God’s commands we will find joy in living well.

DECEMBER 10: JOSHUA

(Read Joshua 1 or JSB, page 108)

Memory Verse: 1 John 4:18

Take Away: God will give us strength and courage in every situation.

DECEMBER 11: HANNAH + SAMUEL

(Read 1 Samuel 1-2 or JSB)

Memory Verse: Psalm 37:4

Take Away: A heart of gratitude will open our eyes to see and understand God’s plan.

DECEMBER 12: DAVID

(Read 1 Samuel 16 or JSB, page 116)

Memory Verse: Ephesians 2:10

Take Away: God does not look at our outward appearance, he looks at our heart.

DECEMBER 13: FACING THE GIANT

(Read 1 Samuel 17 or JSB, page 122)

Memory Verse: Philippians 4:13

Take Away: Our strength to win the battle against our “giants” comes from God.

DECEMBER 14: SOLOMON

(Read 1 Kings 3 or JSB)

Memory Verse: James 3:17

Take Away: True wisdom (knowing what to do) comes from God.

DECEMBER 15: JONAH

(Read Jonah 1-2 or JSB, page 160)

Memory Verse: Luke 11:28

Take Away: God is good and worthy of our obedience.

**WEEK 3: THE CALL**

This week in our Advent reading we’ll follow the call – on lives such as Isaiah, Daniel, Esther, and Nehemiah who boldly obeyed God’s leading to go, to speak, to rescue and to proclaim him as Lord. As we share the stories of these heroes of our faith, we begin to see it all come together; God’s incredible rescue plan…a plan of hope and healing; a plan of victory for his people.

DECEMBER 16: ISAIAH

(Read Isaiah 9:1-7, 11:1-5 or JSB, page 144)

Memory Verse: Romans 1:16

Take Away: God asks us to share his good news with others.

DECEMBER 17: DANIEL

(Read Daniel 6 or JSB, page 152)

Memory Verse: Hebrews 10:23

Take Away: God is faithful and never-changing.

DECEMBER 18: ESTHER

(Read Esther 4-5 or JSB)

Memory Verse: Philippians 2:13

Take Away: When we follow God, we can do great things – right now, right where we are.

DECEMBER 19: NEHEMIAH

(Read Nehemiah 1 or JSB)

Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 15:58

Take Away: We can do hard things with God’s help.

DECEMBER 20: ELIZABETH + JOHN THE BAPTIST

(Read Luke 1:5-25, 57-80 or JSB, page 200)

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:1

Take Away: God wants us to trust him and believe he can do the impossible.

DECEMBER 21: MARY + JOSEPH

(Read Luke 1:26-56 or JSB)

Memory Verse: Isaiah 26:3

Take Away: God will bring peace when we say YES to joining his great adventure.

DECEMBER 22: JESUS IS HERE!

(Read Luke 2:1-7 or JSB, page 176)

Memory Verse: John 3:16

Take Away: Jesus came to save us and teach us how to live and love well.

**WEEK 4: THE PROMISE**

We’re moving our way toward the center of it all, JESUS! This week in our Advent reading we see the promise fulfilled. Through the long-awaited arrival of Emmanuel, God’s promise of redemption and healing comes together as we welcome the Savior!

DECEMBER 23: THE SHEPHERDS

(Read Luke 2:8-20 or JSB, page 184)

Memory Verse: Psalm 25:9

Take Away: God wants us to be his helpers, no matter our age, size or ability.

DECEMBER 24: THE WISE MEN

(Read Matthew 2:1-12 or JSB, page 192)

Memory Verse: Psalm 95:6

Take Away: When we worship Jesus with our lives, others will see and want to know about him.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!!