

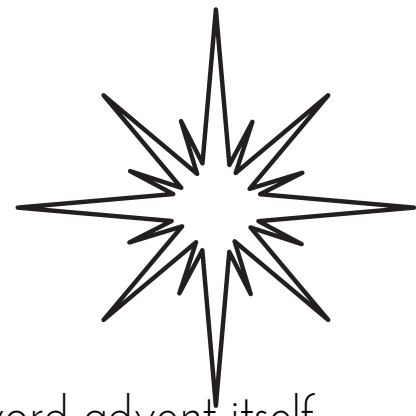


Advent

*The celebration of
the coming of Christ*

Unfolding Ministries

Advent



Advent is the celebration of Jesus as the Messiah. The word advent itself, means “arrival” or “coming”. The church celebrates the season of Advent in remembrance and celebration of Jesus who came to this earth as our Messiah and will return to take His children home with Him to live eternally.

During the four Sundays and weeks before Christmas, the celebration of Advent focuses our hearts and minds on Christ with themes of hope, faith, joy, and love. This Advent Season begins December 2 and ends on Christmas morning.

Each week of the Advent season, I have provided scriptures and activities helping to incorporate the theme of Jesus is Coming within your everyday lives. I would encourage you to light the candle on Sunday, signifying the Advent week and then light it each night at dinner in remembrance. I have created opportunities you can do by yourself, with your family, or with children, both young and old. Discuss how the activities impacted your heart as well as others. Remember, the focus of these activities is to remember the reason of the manger and the cross, all the while shouting, JESUS IS COMING!

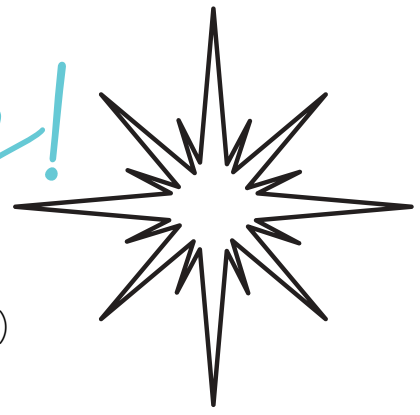


Merry CHRISTmas,

Heather

Unfolding Ministries

Jesus is coming!



Sunday, **Week 1** The candle of **HOPE**-The Prophecy Candle (purple candle)

Day 1: Isaiah 7:14

Activity: Leave candy canes on cars with a note attached saying, "Jesus is coming!"

Day 2: Isaiah 9:6-7

Activity: Look up the meaning of your name and the names of people in your family. Talk about the names of Jesus and what they mean.

Day 3: Isaiah 11: 1-10

Activity: Choose to see the good in those around you. Compliment a stranger. For young children, have them compliment another child or someone within their family.

Day 4: John 1: 1-5

Activity: Hang Christmas lights from the ceiling of a room in your house remembering JESUS is the Light!

Day 5: Matthew 1: 18-25

Activity: Write encouraging notes and scriptures to new mothers. Take them to your church nursery or leave them in the maternity waiting rooms at your local hospital.

Day 6: Luke 2: 1-7

Activity: Show hospitality and invite someone over for dinner.

Sunday, **Week 2** The candle of **FAITH/PREPARATION**- The Bethlehem Candle (purple candle)

Day 7: John 3: 16-17

Activity: Share your salvation story with someone. (If you are *not* a believer in Jesus Christ, read these verses: Romans 3:10, Romans 3:23, Romans 5:8, Romans 6:23, Romans 10:9-10, Romans 10:13. Pray, admitting you are a sinner, and the result of sin is death. Believe that Jesus died on the cross for your sins, and rose again preparing a way for you to live eternally with Him. Confess that He is Lord, asking Him to be the Lord of your life. Ask Him to come into your heart and save you from an eternal death.)

Day 8: John 20:27

Activity: Choose one Advent scripture and make that the "verse of the week". Recite it each day, memorize it, and share it with someone.

Day 9: John 20:31

Activity: Bake (or buy) cookies for local police, firemen, or EMS. Deliver them with a Faith scripture attached to the top of the container.

Day 10: Mark 1:15

Activity: Buy mittens and take them to a local shelter or school. You could also drop them off on your neighbor's door step. Attach a Faith scripture to them.

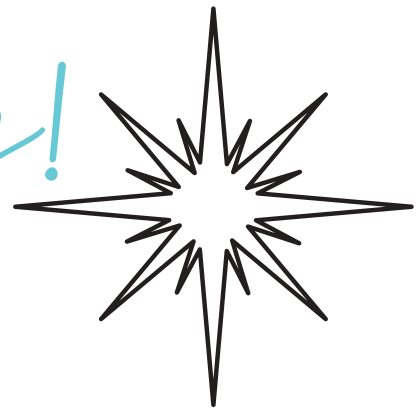
Day 11: Ephesians 1:18-19

Activity: Grab your journal and write the Faith scriptures. Remind your spirit of your Faith in Jesus Christ.

Day 12: 1 Peter 1: 8-12

Activity: Support a local business. Volunteer to clean tables at a restaurant or gather buggies from a parking lot.

Jesus is coming!



Sunday, **Week 3** The candle of **JOY**-The Shepherd Candle (pink candle)

Day 13: John 15:11

Activity: Leave change in a vending machine or at a laundry mat with a note sharing the joy of Jesus.

Day 14: Psalm 100:1

Activity: Go Christmas caroling with your family in your neighborhood or with your church. Another option is to sing Christmas carols with your family at home. You could learn/sing "Joy to the World".

Day 15: Nehemiah 8:10b

Activity: Make Christmas cards and deliver them to a local nursing home for the residents.

Day 16: Psalm 33:1

Activity: Leave a joyful tip for a waiter or waitress. Tell them what a "joy" it was to have them serve you.

Day 17: Romans 15:13

Activity: Take can food to a local food bank.

Day 18: Luke 15:10

Activity: Make a paper snowflake and write the name of someone you know that does not know Jesus as their Savior. Hang the snowflake on your Christmas tree and pray for them to know the Joy of Jesus.

Sunday, **Week 4** The candle of **LOVE**- The Angel Candle (purple candle)

Day 19: Deuteronomy 6:5

Activity: Serve someone today with the love of Christ.

Day 20: Deuteronomy 7:9

Activity: Send Christmas Cards sharing the love the Christ.

Day 21: Psalm 13:5

Activity: Take new or gently used coats to a local charity. Host a coat drive in your local school or at your church.

Day 22: John 15:13

Activity: Make dinner and take it to a friend.

Day 23: John 15:17

Activity: Write down the reasons why you love someone and give them the list.

Day 24: Romans 5:8 CHRISTmas Day The CHRIST candle (white candle)

Activity: Spend time thanking God for Jesus and the sacrifice He made on the cross. Remember the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. REJOICE in the Messiah! JESUS IS COMING!