



**ADVENT**  
**FAMILY**  
**DEVOTIONS**



## **Week 1: HOPE**

### **Read**

Isaiah 2:1-5

Christmas is getting closer! The excitement is growing, and we can't wait for it to arrive. Can you tell me exactly how many days there are until Christmas? Imagine having to wait more than a whole year for this day. What if you had waited your whole life? A long time ago, God spoke through the prophet Isaiah that a new king would come, and things would be very different. What kind of things did Isaiah say would be different? Doesn't that sound wonderful? When the people heard Isaiah's message, they were very hopeful. Jesus was born around 700 years later, but the people were still reciting Isaiah's prophecy, as they waited for the king to be born. God kept His promise when He sent Jesus to be born. Today, we have hope because Jesus made a promise that He is preparing a place for us and making all things new. We trust in Jesus to forgive us completely and fill us with hope as we wait for His return.

### **Ask**

Have you ever had to wait for something that you were really excited for?

Was there ever a moment when you weren't sure it would happen?



What can we do when we feel this way?

### **Do**

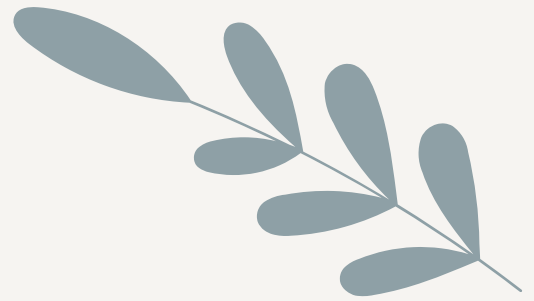
Light a purple candle.

### **Pray**

Father, we praise You for Your faithfulness. Thank You for sending Jesus to be the King You promised long ago. Thank You for Your mercy and grace. Please fill us with hope as we wait for Jesus to make all things new. Help us to share our hope with those around us. In Jesus' name, amen.



## **Week 2: PEACE**



### **Read**

Isaiah 11:1-10

When was the last time you visited the zoo? In the prophecy we just read, it talked about the animals who are now considered enemies becoming friends and being at peace with each other. Jesus is a very special kind of king. He is bringing peace to all creation. The best part is that when we trust in Jesus, He brings peace between God and us, through forgiveness of sin. When we have God's peace in our hearts, it helps us to have peace with the people around us too.

### **Ask**

What does it mean to have peace?

Knowing that God forgives us completely, should we forgive others?

Does forgiveness lead to peace?

### **Do**

Light the second purple candle.

### **Pray**

Father, we thank You for this reminder of the peace that only comes from You. You love and care about each and every one of us. You love us so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior! Thank You for the peace that comes when we put our faith in You. Please help us to trust You and live Your way every day. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name, amen.



## **Week 3: JOY**

### **Read**

Luke 1:26-56

Have you ever seen a baby that was filled with joy? Did it make you smile and want to laugh too? Joy can make us want to jump up and down and shout. We just read that when Elizabeth heard Mary's voice, the baby she was carrying leaped for joy and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is like a fountain of joy. Jesus promised to send us the Holy Spirit as we wait for His return. We can have joy, just like that baby, because we know that Jesus is coming!

### **Ask**

We sometimes see family members at Christmas that we don't see very often. Who are you most excited to see?

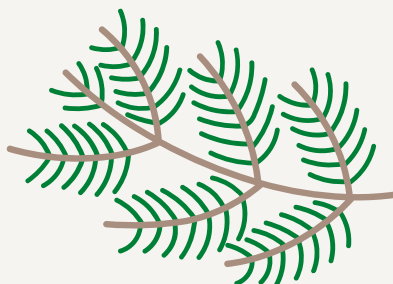
How will you share your joy with them?

### **Do**

Light the pink candle.

### **Pray**

Father, we praise You because You created joy and taught us how to express it even when we were little babies. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit and help us to share our joy with others. Help us to recognize Your voice and rejoice in the plans that You have made for us. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.



## **Week 4: LOVE**

### **Read**

Zephaniah 3:14-17, Luke 2:1-7

Have you ever seen a baby that was upset and crying? When a mother or father hears their child crying, they sometimes sing to the baby to soothe him. Do you think that Mary sang to Jesus when he was born? Long ago, God sent a message through the prophet Zephaniah, "He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing." God is kind to us and loves us deeply. We know this because Jesus said, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only son, that whoever believes in Him, will not perish, but have eternal life." Because of God's love, we have an amazing future, filled with hope and promise!

### **Ask**

How does it make you feel knowing God loves you so much?

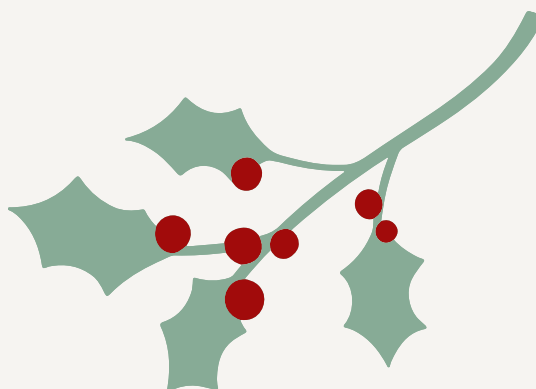
How can we show God's love to others?

### **Do**

Light the third purple candle.

### **Pray**

Dear God, thank You for showing Your love by sending Jesus. You kept Your promise to send a Savior. Help us to always remember how much You love us. Help us to love others and show kindness. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.





## **Christmas Eve**

### **Read**

Luke 2:8-20

Can you believe it's Christmas Eve? There is so much excitement and joy all around the world tonight. When Jesus was born, angels came to announce the news to shepherds who were out in the field, watching over sheep as they settled in for the night. Can you imagine how surprised they must have been? Later when Jesus was getting ready to go back to Heaven, he told his disciples to take care of His sheep. Jesus was talking about us, we are His sheep and He is the Good Shepherd. Jesus said that when He returns, it will be a big surprise. Let's celebrate tonight just like the shepherds did when Jesus was born!



### **Ask**

Have you ever been surprised?

Do you think you could be a good shepherd like Jesus and help take care of others?

### **Do**

Light the white candle.

### **Pray**

Dear God, you are amazing! Thank you for sending Jesus to be the Good Shepherd. Thank you for wonderful surprises! We love you. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

