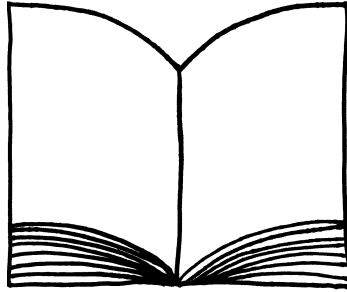
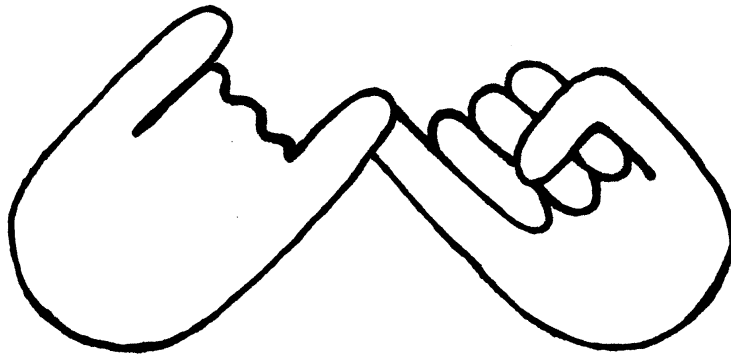


Advent God and Me

Time **Years 3-5**

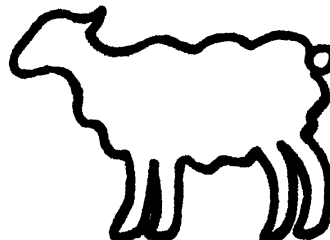


A Promise-Keeping God



... And he will be called
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

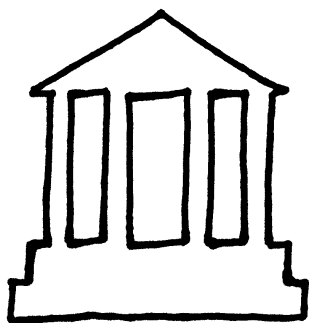
ISAIAH 9:6B (NIV)



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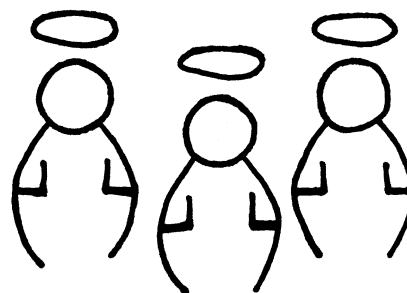
Instructions

Each page has some questions and prayer ideas that can help you keep thinking about the Advent Bible Readings.



Have fun!

Each page matches to one of the dates of the Advent Bible Readings.



The map for Prayer on the 23rd December



World Watch List 2020

TOP 50 COUNTRIES WHERE CHRISTIANS ARE PERSECUTED

Where in the world...

- are there up to 70,000 Christians in prison?
- is it against the law for children to attend church?
- would you have to queue for facial recognition as you enter church?

Find out the answers and how you can send a message of encouragement to persecuted Christian children at www.opendoorsuk.org

Per-se-cu-tion
noun

"The act of continually treating others in a cruel way because of race, religion, politics or some other difference."

TOP 50 COUNTRIES

1 North Korea	11 Eritrea	21 Syria	31 Vietnam	41 Central African Republic	51 Mali
2 Afghanistan	12 Sudan	22 Nigeria	32 Turkmenistan	42 China	52 Sri Lanka
3 Somalia	13 Saudi Arabia	23 Algeria	33 China	43 Morocco	53 Tajikistan
4 Libya	14 Iran	24 Egypt	34 Uzbekistan	44 Datar	54 Nepal
5 Pakistan	15 India	25 Saudi Arabia	35 Myanmar	45 Mauritania	55 Brunei
		26 Iraq	36 Laos	46 Burkina Faso	56 Bangladesh
				47 Jordan	57 Ethiopia
					58 Kazakhstan
					59 Malaysia
					60 Colombia
					61 Oman
					62 Kenya
					63 Bhutan
					64 Russian Federation
					65 Indonesia
					66 United Arab Emirates
					67 Cameroon
					68 Niger

Lord, protect Your children and make them strong in Your love.

AMEN

SOUTH AMERICA

KEY:
● Extreme levels of persecution
● Very high levels of persecution
● High levels of persecution

How to read the passages:

A great translation to use is the ***New International Readers' Version (NIRV)***

The ***NIRV*** Bible can be found online if you don't have one at home, or you could ask your Youth or Kids Minister if they have any copies.

November 28

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Hearts

When did God make the old covenant (promise) with Israel?

Write/draw your 3 favourite Bible promises and thank God for them!

Who kept the covenant (promise)?

Who will know God is the Lord when he makes this new covenant (promise)?

List some of the old covenant (promise) laws:
(if you don't know any of those laws, you could start by looking at Deuteronomy 5:6-21)

This passage uses picture language to show how people will know and keep this new covenant (promise). Why would Jeremiah use this picture language?

November 29

Isaiah 40:1-5

Comfort

What good news in v2 do Christians today share with the people of Jerusalem?

Draw 3 of your favourite things from nature (e.g. flowers, trees and puppies) and praise God for them!

Why does a messenger (v3) need to be sent by God?

Why is God speaking tenderly to his people?

What New Testament person do you think the messenger in v3 might be?

In v4 this passage uses picture language to talk about how BIG and important it will be to the world when this promise happens. Why does the writer use a picture of changing mountains and valleys to show this?

November 30

Luke 1:5-25

Prepare

When you read all the promises in the Bible do you feel like Zechariah or do you feel differently to him?

Say sorry for a time when you find it hard to trust God and thank God that he loves us and is with us even when things are sad and scary!

What does a priest like Zechariah do and why did Israel need them?

Does this promised baby remind you of any other promises from the Old and New Testaments?

List all the things you would feel if you were one of the people in v21-22:

RECAP the 29 November passage:

December 1

Luke 1:57-66

Wonder

Why can Zechariah speak again when he names his baby John?

Write the names of 5 people you love and thank God for them!

When God gives you good gifts do what Zechariah does in v64 or do you do something different?

Why are Elizabeth and Zechariah's neighbours such a big part of this passage?

List all the things people feel in this passage:

RECAP the 30 November passage:

December 2

Luke 1:67-80

Saved

How does Zechariah feel about God, based on what he says in his song?

Rewrite Zechariah's song as your own prayer praising God for rescuing us from sin!

Why is it important that Zechariah talks about the people in v69, v70 and v73?

After reading this song, where does peace come from?

What does that peace look like?

God's people will be . . .

S _ V _ D*

**these use NIRV spelling*

_ O _ G _ V _ N*

G _ I _ E _ *

List all the ways Zechariah's song talks about God:

December 3

Mark 1:1-8

Baptise

What person (in v7 and v8) is John saying is much more important than him?

Write the names of and then pray for, 3 people you would like to become friends with Jesus!

Is who John is and what John does what you thought he would based on what you read in the Nov 29, Nov 30 and Dec 2 passages?

If Mark is writing about Jesus' life, why does he start by talking about John the Baptist?

List all the names given to Jesus in this passage:

Draw what you think John would have looked like:

December 4

2 Samuel 7:11b-16

Throne

Which Old Testament king is God making the promise to and what kind of king was he?

Write 10 names the Bible uses for God and then praise him for them!

Kings are the boss. Do you listen to and do what is asked by the people who are your boss?

What forever, promised king do you think v13 is talking about?

List all the things you think a good king would be like:

This passage uses picture language to talk about what the forever, promised king will do. Why would God use this picture language?

December 5

Isaiah 11:1-5 *Branch*

Why is it important that the Spirit will help the man (the Branch)?

Draw the man (Branch) the passage describes. Add a few more clothing items (e.g. shoes of patience) and pray that you would be like him!

What will the relationship between this man (the Branch) and God be like?

Who do you think this man (the Branch) will be?

List all the things the man (the Branch) will do:

This passage uses the picture language of plants to talk about a family and a man. Why do you think Isaiah uses this picture language?

December 6

Matthew 1:1-17

Generations

Why does Matthew start his story of Jesus' life by talking about Jesus' family?

Write the names of 2 people you recognise from Jesus' family tree and thank God for them and one time (or story) where God helped them.

What kind of relationship with God did the people from v17 have?

What is a Messiah and can you think of anyone else from the Bible who was a Messiah?

Write down all the names you recognise from Jesus' family:

RECAP the 2 Samuel 7:11b-16 passage:

December 7

Isaiah 7:14 *Immanuel*

Is God the only one who could make this promise happen?

Why?

Write or draw 5 places you go to all the time or 5 activities you do all the time (e.g. school or soccer) and give thanks to God that he is with you there!

*What does Immanuel mean?
(if you're not sure, check Matthew 1:23)*

Based on this passage, what is God like?

Who do you think this baby will be?

RECAP the Isaiah 11:1-5 passage:

December 8

Luke 1:26-38

King

In v36 and v37 the angel shows Mary God's promises will happen for her because God's promises always happen. Do you believe this?

Write out the Lord's Prayer and pray it for yourself! (if you are unsure what any of the words mean you can ask your Kids' Church Leaders or your family)

When you read what God's people should do, are you like Mary in v38 or do you feel differently?

Why do you think the angel's greeting makes Mary upset?

What Old Testament king is mentioned twice in this passage?

RECAP the Isaiah 7:14 passage:

December 9

Luke 1:39-45

Blessed

How does Elizabeth describe Mary?

Read Matthew 5:3-12 and write out your own prayer that blesses the people Jesus is blessing. Pray that you would be one of those people!

What does blessed mean and why is it repeated in this passage?

In v43, who does Elizabeth say Mary's baby is to her?

List all the things you think Mary and Elizabeth are feeling in this passage:

**these use NIRV spelling*

The babies are . . .

__ E __ U __* and J __ H __*

December 10

Luke 1:46-55

Mighty

Does God look after people like the world does or is who he cares about different to the world?

Rewrite Mary's song and pray it for yourself!

How do you think Mary was feeling as she sang this song to God?

When you sing to God do you sing like Mary (and Zechariah from December 2)?

List all the words you would use to talk about God after reading Mary's song:

What's your favourite Kids' Church song?

How do you sing it?

December 11

Matthew 1:18-25

Jesus

If it were you, would you do the same things as the people in the passage or would you do something different?

Write 2 ways you didn't love God this week, and also write a prayer that thanks God that he forgives our sins. Pray your 3 prayers - the sorrys first and then the thank you.

Why does Matthew directly talk about God's promise from Isaiah 7:14?

What do you think is the best promise God has ever made?

RECAP the December 8 passage:

**these use NIRV spelling*

Joseph is . . .

__ A __ T __ F __ L*

to the

L __ W*

December 12

Micah 5:2-4 *Bethlehem*

Can you think of any other times in the Bible where God uses someone or something small to rescue or help his people?

Write 5 places/activities that you would like to ask God to be king over and pray he would be king over all your life!

What will the promised ruler do (in v4)?

Have you read any other Bible passages about rescuing rulers?

Who will the rescuer be and what will they rescue us from?

The promised, rescuing ruler's

G _ E _ T _ E _ S* will cover all the _ A _ T _ *

**these use NIRV spelling*

This passage uses picture language to talk about the promised, rescuing ruler as being like a shepherd. What does a shepherd do and how would a ruler be like a shepherd?

December 13

Luke 2:1-7 *Manger*

Does it make sense to you that baby Jesus had to sleep where animals were living?

Draw three things you need to live (e.g. water, food and a bed) and thank God for giving those things to us every day!

Why does Luke talk about the Roman Emperor and Governor of Syria as he talks about how Jesus was born?

After reading this passage, do you think God's promises to Mary and Joseph have happened?

Where were you born?

RECAP the December 12 passage:

December 14

Luke 2:8-14

Joy

If an angel suddenly appeared to you would you feel like the shepherds do in v9 or would you feel differently to them?

Write out the angel's praise prayer from v14 and pray it for yourself. Then write out 2 more praise prayers and pray those too!

Does it make sense to you that the first people to hear about a "Savior . . . Messiah . . . Lord" baby are shepherds?

Do the shepherds have any way to know if what the angels are saying has happened?

Draw what you think the angels looked like

RECAP the December 2 passage:

December 15

Luke 2:15-21
Praise

What do the shepherds do after they see Jesus?

Draw 5 things you love and thank God for them!

Why do you think the shepherds went to see Jesus so quickly?

Does everyone do the same thing when they hear about/see Jesus?

What do they do?

List all the things people are feeling in this passage:

RECAP the December 1 passage:

December 16

Matthew 2:1-12

Worship

What does the promise God makes in Isaiah 40:5 have to do with where the Wise Men are from?

Write 2 ways Jesus wasn't king in your life this week and say sorry for them. Write a prayer for everyone who isn't friends with Jesus yet. and pray that they would say sorry for their sin and become friends with Jesus.

Why does Matthew tell us who the king of the Jewish people was when Jesus was born?

Why is what the Wise Men call Jesus in v2 an awkward thing to say in front of Herod?

What is the best present you've ever been given?

List the differences between how the Wise Men and Herod feel about the birth of Jesus:

December 17

Luke 2:25-38

Promised

How do you think Mary and Joseph feel when they heard and saw what Anna and Simeon said about Jesus?

Write down 2 times God answered your prayers and give thanks to him!

Think back over all the promises God has made, which do you think Simeon is waiting to happen in v25?

Anna and Simeon are thankful to God for Jesus. Are you thankful to God for Jesus and anything else?

List what God is like based on this passage:

List all the words you would use to say what Anna and Simeon are like:

December 18

Mark 1:9-15

Kingdom

Where else in the passages you've read so far does the Spirit appear and what does he do?

Write 1 way you didn't love God this week, then write a prayer thanking God for Jesus, and then write a prayer asking God to help you love him and pray!

Why is what God's voice says from heaven in v11 says important to the people listening the and to us reading the story now?

Does what Jesus says in v15 sound like good news to you?

RECAP the December 3 passage:

v12 is a pretty intense story but most important is that Jesus is the boss and loves God even here (see Matthew 4:10-11)! If you have questions you can talk to your parents or your Kids' Church Leaders.

December 19

Psalm 22:1-5

Trusted

Is it important that King David wrote this Psalm?

Write anything that is making you scared or sad and ask God to help you with them!

Does the description of God and his people in v3-5 remind you of any passages you've read so far?

What changes between v1-2 and v3-5?

List all the feelings you think David felt as he wrote this:

What God did when Israel cried out:

**this uses NIRV spelling*

He ___ A ___ E ___* them!

December 20

Mark 15:22-26 & 33-39 *Crucified*

Does everyone treat Jesus the same as he is on the cross?

What do they do?

Write a prayer giving thanks for Jesus' death on the cross.

Why is what happens in v38 so incredible and why does it happen when it does?

(if you're not sure, check Exodus 39:9 and Leviticus 16:2)

Why would Jesus repeat Psalm 22:1 as he was on the cross?

What crime is Jesus accused of in v26?

This passage can be hard to read - it is sad! Talk to your parents or your Kids' Church Leaders if you need to share how you feel. But the amazing thing is that this isn't the end of the story!

December 21

John 20:1-18

Ascending

When you read this story do you want to do what Mary does in v18 or do you want to do something different?

Write a prayer giving thanks for Jesus' resurrection. Then write 2 names of 2 people you would like God's help to tell about Jesus and pray!

Do Simon Peter, Mary Magdalene and the other disciple find what they expect when they visit Jesus' tomb?

Why doesn't Mary recognise Jesus until he says her name in v16?

List all the things you think Mary and the disciples were feeling in this passage:

List the names you use for God and Jesus when you pray:

December 22

John 1:1-18

Light

Which way people respond to the light/the word is most like what you do?

Draw 4 things you want to praise God for from the passage and praise Him!

What does v17 have to do with the old and new covenants (promises) God made and was going to make with his people?

Who is the light/the word that John is talking about?

List all the things the light/word does and has done:

This passage uses picture language of a light and a word to describe someone. Why does John use this picture language?

December 23

John 3:16-17

Eternal

What is God giving to people who believe in (or who are friends with) him?

Choose 1 of the places from the map on the Instructions page and pray God would help the Christians there and that more people would be friends with Jesus too!

Some other great resources to pray for friends of Jesus around the world are:

<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/resources/children-at-home/>

<https://www.cms.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/>

[KPS_2021_August_PrayerPages_Combined.pdf](#)

What is God like based on this passage?

Why did God send his Son (Jesus) into the world?

Create some actions to help you remember these great verses!

RECAP the December 22 passage:

December 24

Romans 10:9-13

Believe

Can anyone believe in (be friends with) Jesus?

Write your own prayer that says what you believe!

Can you do what v9 says?

If you can't, what is stopping you?

How does someone show they believe in (are friends with) Jesus?

RECAP the November 28 passage:

This passage shows one important way people who are friends with Jesus can tell other people about this friendship.

This is a big, important thing, so if you have any questions about this and what it means to you - ask your parents or Kids' Church Leaders.