

A Family Advent Guide

Stories of the Coming King

Four Weeks of Advent at Home

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
Hope	**Peace**	**Joy**	**Love**
Genesis 3:1-15	Luke 1:26-38	Luke 2:1-20	Matthew 2:1-12

LIFEPOINT KIDS

BASECAMP CHRISTMAS CURRICULUM

A FAMILY ADVENT GUIDE

Camp Fire Christmas | *Stories of the Coming King*

This guide follows the same four-week journey your family is experiencing together at BaseCamp — from the promise of a Rescuer, to the announcement of His coming, to His arrival, to His worship as King. Each week is built around one theme of Advent. Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love — and gives your family a way to keep talking about it at home.

WEEK	THEME	SCRIPTURE	THIS WEEK'S FOCUS
Week 1	**HOPE**	Genesis 3:1-15	The Hope We Have in the Promised Savior
Week 2	**PEACE**	Luke 1:26-38	The Announcement Brings Peace
Week 3	**JOY**	Luke 2:1-20	The Arrival Brings Joy
Week 4	**LOVE**	Matthew 2:1-12	The Love of the King and Our Response in Worship

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Each week includes four parts: a short family Reading to start the week together, a Diving Deeper section for a bit more depth, age-tiered Questions to Ask your kids, and a Monday-Friday Scripture Reading Plan to keep your family in God's Word throughout the week. Gather as a family once a week. Sunday evening, or whenever works best to read the week's passage and Reading together, talk through the questions, and then use the daily readings to keep the conversation going.

This guide corresponds directly to what kids are learning on Sundays at BaseCamp. The Scripture, Big Idea, and even the language used each week are the same, so when your family talks about it at home, you're reinforcing exactly what they heard at the fire.

Week 1: HOPE

The Hope We Have in the Promised Savior

Scripture: Genesis 3:1-15

READING

Advent means "coming" — it's the season we set aside to remember that Jesus came, and to look forward to the day He'll come again. And it makes sense that we start with hope, because that's exactly where the Bible's story of Jesus starts too — not in a stable, but all the way back in a garden, at the very moment everything first went wrong.

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, sin entered the world, and with it came shame, fear, and separation from God. It would have been easy for the story to end there. But right in the middle of judging that first sin, God made a promise: one day, He would send someone to crush the power of evil for good. That's the very first hint of Christmas in the entire Bible! A promise made thousands of years before Jesus was ever born.

That's what hope is. Not wishing things will get better, but trusting God to keep a promise He's already made. This Advent season, as your family lights the first candle, let it remind you: the hope we have isn't a feeling we talk ourselves into. It's a person we're waiting on, and He already came once to prove He keeps His word.

DIVING DEEPER

Genesis 3:15 is sometimes called the "first gospel" because it's the first promise in the Bible of a coming Rescuer. God tells the serpent that the offspring of the woman will one day crush his head. It's a promise made in a moment of judgment and heartbreak which is often exactly where hope has to take root. If you want to trace this promise further as a family this week, look at how it echoes forward into Isaiah 9:6-7 ("For to us a child is born...") the same hope, showing up again centuries later, getting a little clearer each time.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

Ages 4 – 1st Grade

- What did Adam and Eve do that made them hide from God?
- What did God promise, even though Adam and Eve had disobeyed Him?

Grades 2 – 3

- Why do you think God still made a promise to help, even right after Adam and Eve disobeyed?
- What does it mean to have "hope" in something?
- How is the hope we have in Jesus different from just wishing for something?

Grades 4 – 5

- God's promise in Genesis 3:15 came right after the very first sin. Why do you think the Bible's story of hope starts there instead of somewhere happier?
- Genesis 3:15 was made thousands of years before Jesus was born. What does that tell us about God's timing and faithfulness?
- Is there something in your life right now where you need to trust God's promise instead of just hoping things "work out"?

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READING PLAN

DAY	PASSAGE	FOCUS
Monday	**Genesis 3:14-15**	The promise begins. Even in the middle of judging the first sin, God promises a Rescuer is coming.
Tuesday	**Genesis 12:1-3**	God tells Abraham that through his family, every nation on earth will be blessed. The promise gets its first family.
Wednesday	**Genesis 49:8-10**	Jacob blesses his son Judah and says a ruler will come from his line. The promise gets its tribe.
Thursday	**2 Samuel 7:12-13, 16**	God promises King David that his throne will last forever. The promise gets its royal line.
Friday	**Isaiah 9:6-7**	Centuries later, the prophet Isaiah describes this coming King in detail — "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." The promise gets its clearest picture yet.

Wrap up the week (Saturday or Sunday, before BaseCamp): "This week we watched one promise get clearer and clearer — from a garden, to a family, to a tribe, to a King. That's the hope we're waiting for on this Advent."

Week 2: PEACE

The Announcement Brings Peace

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38

READING

Last week we lit the candle of hope, remembering a promise God made all the way back in a garden. This week, that promise finally gets some details and it starts, of all places, with an angel telling a young woman not to be afraid.

When Gabriel appeared to Mary, her first response wasn't peaceful at all. Luke tells us she was "greatly troubled." That makes sense. An angel showing up is unsettling under the best of circumstances, and what he was about to tell her would turn her whole life upside down. But notice what Gabriel says next: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God." Real peace doesn't usually arrive because a situation calms down. It arrives because God shows up in the middle of it.

Mary's peace didn't come from understanding everything. She still had an honest question ("How will this be?"). Her peace came from trusting the One doing the announcing. When she finally said, "Let it be to me according to your word," that wasn't resignation. That was peace. The kind that lets you say yes to God even when you can't see how it all works out.

This Advent, as your family lights the second candle, remember: the peace we're waiting on isn't the absence of hard or surprising things. It's the presence of a God who announces what He's doing and asks us to trust Him with the rest.

DIVING DEEPER

The angel's announcement connects directly back to Isaiah 9:6, which calls this coming child the "Prince of Peace." But the peace Jesus brings goes deeper than a peaceful feeling. Romans 5:1 tells us that through Jesus, we have actual peace with God, not just peace of mind. Before Jesus, our sin separated us from God the way Adam and Eve's sin did in the garden. The announcement to Mary was the moment God set in motion the plan to close that gap for good. That's worth sitting with as a family: the peace of Christmas isn't mainly about a calm holiday season. It's about a broken relationship with God being restored.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

Ages 4 – 1st Grade

- What did the angel tell Mary not to do, even though his news was surprising?
- What did Mary say back to the angel?

Grades 2 – 3

- Mary asked the angel a question instead of just saying no. Why do you think that was okay?
- What does it mean to trust God even when you don't understand everything?
- How do you think Mary felt after she said yes to God?

Grades 4 – 5

- Mary's peace didn't come from her situation getting easier. It came from trusting God in the middle of it. Can you think of a time you had to trust God without knowing how things would turn out?
- The angel called Jesus the one who would bring peace. What's the difference between feeling calm and actually having peace with God?
- What do you think it cost Mary to say yes to God's plan for her life?

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READING PLAN

DAY	PASSAGE	FOCUS
Monday	**Luke 1:5-17**	Before Gabriel visits Mary, he visits a priest named Zechariah with news of his own — a son who will "make ready a people prepared for the Lord." The stage is being set.
Tuesday	**Isaiah 7:14**	Centuries earlier, Isaiah said the coming child would be called Immanuel — "God with us." The announcement to Mary is that promise finally happening.
Wednesday	**Luke 1:46-55**	Mary's response to all of this — a song of praise, often called the Magnificat. Her trust turns into worship.
Thursday	**Romans 5:1**	"Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." The peace this announcement set in motion.
Friday	**Philippians 4:6-7**	"The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts." What Mary's kind of trust looks like for us today.

Wrap up the week (Saturday or Sunday, before BaseCamp): "This week we watched an announcement turn into real peace for Mary, and for us. That's the peace we're waiting for on this Advent: not a calm holiday, but a restored relationship with God."

Week 3: JOY

The Arrival Brings Joy

Scripture: Luke 2:1-20

READING

Hope waited for a promise. Peace trusted an announcement. This week, the waiting is over. The promise actually arrives, and it shows up as joy.

Notice how joy enters this story: not through comfort or good circumstances, but through an angel breaking into the middle of an ordinary, unremarkable night. Shepherds were doing what they did every night. They were watching sheep in a field, nobody's idea of an important job. And into that ordinary moment comes the announcement: "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Then the sky fills with an army of angels, praising God.

What's remarkable is who gets this joy first. Not the powerful. Not the religious leaders in Jerusalem. Shepherds, easy to overlook, working the night shift are the very first people on earth to hear that joy has arrived, and they don't waste a second responding to it. They run to Bethlehem, find everything exactly as they were told, and then can't stop telling people. Luke says they went back to their fields "glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen."

That's what real joy does. It doesn't just sit quietly inside you, it moves you to respond. This Advent, as your family lights the third candle, remember: the joy of Christmas isn't about a feeling that shows up once a year with lights and presents. It's the response of anyone who realizes the Savior has actually come and that includes your family, this week, in whatever ordinary night you happen to be in.

DIVING DEEPER

The angel's word choice matters: this is joy "for all the people," not joy reserved for the important or the deserving. That's why shepherds, among the least prestigious people in their society, are the ones entrusted with the news first. It's a preview of exactly how Jesus would spend His whole life: seeking out the overlooked. If you want to trace this joy further as a family, look at Isaiah 9:2-3, written centuries earlier: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light... you have increased their joy." The prophet was already promising this exact joy, long before any shepherd ever heard it announced.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

Ages 4 – 1st Grade

- Who did the angel tell the good news to first?
- What did the shepherds do after they saw baby Jesus?

Grades 2 – 3

- Why do you think God chose to tell shepherds the good news first, instead of important people?
- The shepherds ran to see Jesus right away. What does that tell us about how excited they were?

- What's something that makes you feel real joy?

Grades 4 – 5

- The angel said this joy was "for all the people" — not just some people. Why does that matter?
- The shepherds couldn't stop telling others what they'd seen. Is there a time you were so excited about something you had to tell everyone?
- How is the joy of Christmas different from just having a fun holiday with presents and lights?

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READING PLAN

DAY	PASSAGE	FOCUS
Monday	**Luke 1:39-45**	Mary visits her relative Elizabeth, and Elizabeth's unborn baby (John the Baptist) leaps for joy at the sound of Mary's voice. Joy shows up before Jesus is even born.
Tuesday	**Psalm 96:11-13**	"Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice... for he comes." A song written long before Christmas, celebrating the same arrival.
Wednesday	**Isaiah 9:2-3**	"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light... you have increased their joy." The prophet promises this exact joy, centuries in advance.
Thursday	**Psalm 16:11**	"In your presence there is fullness of joy." Where real, lasting joy actually comes from.
Friday	**Nehemiah 8:10**	"The joy of the Lord is your strength." What this kind of joy does for us in everyday life, not just at Christmas.

Wrap up the week (Saturday or Sunday, before BaseCamp): "This week we saw joy break into an ordinary night for ordinary shepherds. That's the joy we're celebrating this Advent. It is not a feeling that comes and goes, but the response of anyone who realizes the Savior has come for them too."

Week 4: LOVE

The Love of the King and Our Response in Worship

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

READING

Hope waited. Peace trusted. Joy responded. This final week, we get to the reason any of it happened at all: love.

When the wise men finally stood in front of Jesus, they didn't just admire Him from a distance. They fell down and worshiped Him, then opened their treasures and gave Him gold, frankincense, and myrrh. That's worth noticing: real worship isn't just something we say, it's something we give. The wise men gave their best because they believed this child was worth everything they had.

But step back even further, and you find a bigger love behind theirs. God didn't send prophets and angels and a star just to check in. He sent His own Son, into an ordinary family, into a rough manger, because He loved the world enough to do something about it Himself. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son" (John 3:16). Every single thing this Advent season has traced — the promise, the announcement, the arrival — all of it flows from that love.

And here's what makes this different from every other Christmas story: this King didn't only come as a baby. He grew up, died on a cross to pay for our sin, rose from the dead, and is alive and reigning right now. One day He's coming back again as King for good. That's not a nice ending to a story; that's a King worth everything we have, the same way the wise men understood. This Advent, as your family lights the final candle, let it be a reminder: God's love came looking for us first. Our worship is simply how we love Him back.

DIVING DEEPER

1 John 4:19 says it plainly: "We love because he first loved us." Every act of worship in the Christmas story — Mary's yes, the shepherds' joy, the wise men's gifts — is a response to a love that moved first. That's worth talking about as a family: worship isn't us trying to earn God's love or impress Him. It's what naturally happens once we realize how much He already loves us. If you want to dig deeper, read Romans 5:8 together: "God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." The love that sent Jesus to a manger is the same love that took Him all the way to a cross.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

Ages 4 – 1st Grade

- What did the wise men do when they found baby Jesus?
- What did they give Him?

Grades 2 – 3

- Why do you think the wise men gave Jesus their most valuable things?
- What does it mean that God "loved the world" enough to send Jesus?
- What's one way you can show Jesus you love Him this week?

Grades 4 – 5

- The wise men worshiped Jesus by giving Him something costly, not just by saying nice words. What's something costly (time, money, comfort) that worship might ask of you?
- 1 John 4:19 says "we love because he first loved us." How does knowing God loved us first change the way we love Him back?
- This week we learned Jesus isn't only the baby from Christmas — He died, rose, reigns, and will return. Which of those feels most important to you right now, and why?

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READING PLAN

DAY	PASSAGE	FOCUS
Monday	**1 John 4:9-10**	"In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world... he loved us and sent his Son." The love behind everything this Advent has traced.
Tuesday	**John 3:16-17**	"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son." The heart of the whole Christmas story, in one verse.
Wednesday	**Romans 5:8**	"God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." The manger was never the end of the story — the cross was always part of the plan.
Thursday	**Revelation 1:17-18**	"I died, and behold I am alive forevermore." The King who was born is alive right now.
Friday	**Revelation 22:12-13, 20**	"Behold, I am coming soon... Surely I am coming soon." The story isn't finished yet — this King is coming back.

Wrap up the week (Christmas Eve or Christmas Day): "This Advent, we followed one promise all the way from a garden to a manger to a throne — hope, peace, joy, and now love. God loved us first, and sent His Son to prove it. The only right response is the one the wise men gave Him: everything we have."