

Advent Reading Plan for Families

This study can be used to include your whole family in preparing your hearts for the celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. Each day focuses on well-known stories and characters in the Old Testament and Christmas story, and these can be read with your family either straight from the Bible or using a children's picture Bible. Following the reading is a scripture that parallels the reading and an observation. Just add a personal application and prayer, and you have a SOAP! This reading plan is based on Jess Wolstenholm's "Advent Reading Plan + Bible Study for Families", available at gatherandgrow.co.

December 1: Read the Creation story (Genesis 1-2)

Scripture – Psalm 139:13-14

Observation – God knew us and loved us even before we were born.

December 2: Read about when sin entered the world (Genesis 3)

Scripture – 1 John 1:9

Observation – God forgives our bad choices when we ask Him. He loves us no matter what.

December 3: Read the story of Noah and the flood (Genesis 6-9)

Scripture – Proverbs 3:5-6

Observation – When we know the good character of God, we can trust His instructions even when we don't understand.

December 4: Read the story of Abraham (Genesis 17:1-8)

Scripture – Romans 4:16

Observation – We can wait patiently because God's promises can be trusted.

December 5: Read the story of Isaac (Genesis 21:1-21)

Scripture – Romans 8:28

Observation – When we wait on God, we let Him write the story of our lives.

December 6: Read the story of Joseph (Genesis 37-45)

Scripture – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Observation – When we understand God's love, we are thankful and don't need to compare ourselves to others.

December 7 – Read the story of Moses (Exodus 2-3)

Scripture – Psalm 46:1

Observation – God is always with us.

December 8 – Read about God parting the Red Sea (Exodus 14)

Scripture – Psalm 91:4

Observation – Because God is always present in our lives, He knows our needs.

December 9 – Read the 10 Commandments (Exodus 20)

Scripture – Psalm 19:8

Observation – When we follow God's commands, we will find joy in living well.

December 10 – Read the story of Joshua (Joshua 1)

Scripture – 1 John 4:18

Observation – God will give us strength and courage in every situation.

December 11 – Read the story of Hannah and Samuel (1 Samuel 1-2)

Scripture – Psalm 37:4

Observation – A heart of gratitude will open our eyes to see and understand God's plan.

December 12 – Read the story of David's anointing (1 Samuel 16)

Scripture – Ephesians 2:10

Observation – God does not look at our outward appearances; He looks at our hearts.

December 13 – Read the story of David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17)
Scripture – Philippians 4:13
Observation – Our strength to win the battle against our “giants” comes from God.

December 14 – Read the story of Solomon (1 Kings 3)
Scripture – James 3:17
Observation – True wisdom, which is knowing what to do, comes from God.

December 15 – Read the story of Jonah (Jonah 1-2)
Scripture – Luke 11:28
Observation – God is good and worthy of our obedience.

December 16 – Read the story of Isaiah (Isaiah 9:1-7)
Scripture – Romans 1:16
Observation – God asks us to share His Good News with others.

December 17 – Read the story of Daniel in the lions’ den (Daniel 6)
Scripture – Hebrews 10:23
Observation – God is faithful and never-changing.

December 18 – Read the story of Esther (Esther 4-5)
Scripture – Philippians 2:13
Observation – When we follow God, we can do great things – right now, right where we are.

December 19 – Read the story of Nehemiah (Nehemiah 1)
Scripture – 1 Corinthians 15:58
Observation – We can do hard things with God’s help.

December 20 – Read the story of Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-25, 57-80)
Scripture – Hebrews 11:1
Observation – God wants us to trust Him and believe He can do the impossible.

December 21 – Read the story of Mary and Joseph (Luke 1:26-56)
Scripture – Isaiah 26:3
Observation – God will bring peace when we say yes to joining His great adventure.

December 22 – Read the story of the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-7)
Scripture – John 3:16
Observation – Jesus came to save us and teach us how to live and love well.

December 23 – Read the story of the shepherds (Luke 2:8-20)
Scripture – Psalm 25:9
Observation – God wants us to be His helpers, no matter our age, size, or ability.

December 24 – Read the story of the Wise Men (Matthew 2:1-12)
Scripture – Psalm 95:6
Observation – When we worship Jesus with our lives, others will see and want to know about Him.

Journal it!

Scripture - Open your Bible to the reading found under today’s date. Take time reading and allow God to speak to you, don’t rush. Look for ONE verse that particularly stands out. Write it in your journal.

Observation - What do you think God is saying to you in this Scripture? In your own words record the context of the passage.

Application - Personalize it by asking yourself how this applies to your life right now. Write how God is showing you this Scripture can apply to you today. How will you be different today because of what you have just read?

Prayer - Don’t be worried about getting the words right, just get your heart right! Be sure to listen to what God has to say! Now, write it out.