



Cultivate a **spiritually-rich Advent season in your** CoreGroups and/or within your family

1. Advent Question of the Week Jar

Create a jar with weekly prompts like:

- *Where am I longing for God?*
 - *What am I noticing about peace in my body this week?*
 - *Where is joy showing up in small ways?*
- Open one each week and share stories.

2. “Pray the News” Together

Pick one headline

- What does God's kingdom look like in this situation?
 - How might we pray for hope, peace, joy, or love here?
- This deepens compassion and awareness.

3. Shared Advent Playlist

Have each member add 1–2 songs (Advent hymns, Christmas carols, or secular songs).
Listen at home or begin group time with a few minutes of music and quiet.

4. The “Less Is Sacred” Week

Pick one week where the group chooses a simple gathering: tea, soup, calm lighting.
Write or speak blessings over one another.

Example: *“This Advent, I see God’s light in you when...”* — and offer that to someone else in the group.

**Families can do this too: one tech-free night with candles and a short prayer.*

5. Party!!

White elephant gifts, mock tails, or encourage folks to only bring store-brought items so no one is inconvenienced to cook. The Gathering Staff does this at Thanksgiving and it's a potluck party like none other! You could also do a cookie/cookie recipe exchange. Yum!

6. Peace Stories Night

Ask everyone to bring a small object that represents **peace**.

Share the story behind it. Tie it back to the sermon series or the Advent/Christmas season.

7. Candle Lighting with Personal Intentions

Each week light an Advent candle and invite members to name:

- One thing they're laying down
- One thing they're lifting up
- One thing they're longing for

You can close with a blessing. NOTE: This works great in text threads too.

8. Advent Photo Challenge (Simple + Meaningful)

Give your group/family a weekly theme:

- **Week 1: Light**
- **Week 2: Road/Path/Peace**
- **Week 3: Joy**
- **Week 4: Love**

Each person shares one photo that captures their theme.

9. Use the Church's Advent Devotional Collectively

- Read one reflection before each meeting and discuss what stood out.

10. Serve or Give Together

- Serve at one of the Christmas Eve Services
- Give to Mozambique
- Select a local charity to support or serve as a group



