

The background of the entire page is a night landscape. In the foreground, a rustic wooden fence with green metal posts runs across the bottom. Behind the fence is a grassy hillside with some evergreen trees. In the distance, there are rolling mountains under a dark blue sky filled with many stars. A bright star in the upper left corner has a long, vertical beam of light shining down towards the mountains.

Dreams of Hope

A FAMILY ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOK

THOMPSON MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WRITTEN: BY ZENA TREDINNICK-KIRBY

What is Advent?

THIS BOOK IS NOT MEANT TO BE READ IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER UP TO CHRIST'S BIRTH; RATHER, IT IS INTENDED TO BRING TOGETHER THE DREAMS, THE PROPHECIES, AND THE JOURNEYS IN THE ADVENT SEASON.

HERE AT TMPC, WE LOVE TO LEARN AND GROW TOGETHER. THIS ADVENT BOOK WAS CREATED FOR FAMILIES TO SIT SIDE BY SIDE, SHARE SCRIPTURE, AND DEEPEN THEIR FAITH TOGETHER. JESUS TELLS US THAT "WHERE TWO OR MORE ARE GATHERED IN MY NAME, I AM THERE AMONG THEM." SO AS YOU OPEN THESE PAGES THROUGHOUT THE ADVENT SEASON OF 2025, KNOW THAT CHRIST IS TRULY WITH YOU; GUIDING YOUR HEARTS, STRENGTHENING YOUR FAMILY, AND DRAWING YOU CLOSER TO HIS STORY. ADVENT IS THE FOUR-WEEK SEASON LEADING UP TO CHRISTMAS, A TIME WHEN CHRISTIANS PREPARE FOR THE COMING, THE ADVENT, OF JESUS. IT IS BOTH A LOOK BACK AND A LOOK FORWARD: WE REMEMBER JESUS' BIRTH IN BETHLEHEM, THE MOMENT WHEN GOD CAME CLOSE TO US, AND WE ALSO LOOK AHEAD WITH HOPE TO THE DAY WHEN CHRIST WILL RETURN TO BRING PEACE AND RENEWAL TO THE WHOLE WORLD. THROUGHOUT THESE WEEKS, ADVENT GENTLY INVITES US INTO A BEAUTIFUL RHYTHM, ONE OF SLOWING DOWN AND PREPARING OUR HEARTS, TRUSTING GOD'S PROMISES WITH HOPE, CELEBRATING THE JOY JESUS BRINGS, AND REDISCOVERING THE CHRISTMAS STORY WITH FRESH WONDER. EACH PAGE OF THIS BOOK IS DESIGNED TO GUIDE YOUR FAMILY THROUGH SCRIPTURE, DEVOTION, AND REFLECTION AS YOU GROW TOGETHER IN FAITH. AS YOU JOURNEY THROUGH THIS SEASON, MAY YOUR HOME BE FILLED WITH THE HOPE, PEACE, JOY, AND LOVE THAT ADVENT PROMISES AS YOU GROW IN FAITH TOGETHER AS A FAMILY.

PEACE AND LOVE,
ZENA



December 1

ADVENT BEGINS:
A SEASON OF HOPE

Scripture

PSALM 130: 5-6

"I WAIT FOR THE LORD,
MY WHOLE BEING WAITS,
AND IN HIS WORD I PUT
MY HOPE. I WAIT FOR
THE LORD MORE THAN
WATCHMEN WAIT FOR
THE MORNING, MORE
THAN WATCHMEN WAIT
FOR THE MORNING."

Devotion

ADVENT IS A TIME OF
WAITING FOR JESUS, JUST
LIKE GOD'S PEOPLE WAITED
LONG AGO. WAITING CAN BE
HARD, BUT IT HELPS US
GROW OUR HOPE AND TRUST
THAT GOD'S TIMING IS
PERFECT.

Family Reflection

WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU ARE
WAITING FOR RIGHT NOW?

HOW CAN WAITING HELP US
GROW?

December 2

ISAIAH'S DREAM OF A SAVIOR

Scripture

ISAIAH 9:2-7

"PEOPLE WERE LIVING IN DARKNESS, BUT GOD PROMISED TO SEND A GREAT LIGHT. HE WOULD TAKE AWAY THEIR SADNESS AND MAKE THEIR HEARTS FULL OF JOY. GOD SAID A SPECIAL CHILD WOULD BE BORN, HIS OWN SON, AND HE WOULD BE OUR LEADER FOREVER. HIS NAMES WOULD BE WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER, AND PRINCE OF PEACE. HIS KINGDOM WOULD NEVER END, AND HE WOULD BRING PEACE, LOVE, AND FAIRNESS TO EVERYONE."

Devotion

ISAIAH LIVED 700 YEARS BEFORE JESUS, AND GOD SHOWED HIM A VISION THAT A SPECIAL CHILD WOULD ONE DAY BRING LIGHT AND HOPE TO THE WORLD. ISAIAH SAW GOD'S PROMISE BEFORE ANYONE ELSE, TELLING PEOPLE ABOUT THE WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, AND PRINCE OF PEACE.

Family Reflection

WHAT DO YOU HOPE GOD WILL DO IN YOUR LIFE?

WHAT KIND OF WORLD DO YOU DREAM OF? PEACEFUL? KIND? LOVING?



December 3

IMMANUEL: GOD WITH US

Scripture

ISAIAH 7:14

ISAIAH SHARED ANOTHER MESSAGE FROM GOD: “ONE DAY, A YOUNG WOMAN WOULD HAVE A BABY BOY, AND HIS NAME WOULD BE IMMANUEL, WHICH MEANS “GOD WITH US.” THAT NAME REMINDS US THAT GOD ISN’T FAR AWAY OR DISTANT. HE IS CLOSE, RIGHT BESIDE US. THIS PROMISE SHOWS THAT GOD DREAMS OF A WORLD WHERE NO ONE EVER FEELS ALONE.

Devotion

GOD ISN’T FAR AWAY, HE CHOOSES TO BE CLOSE TO US. THE PROMISE OF A COMING CHILD SHOWED THAT GOD WANTED HIS PEOPLE TO KNOW THEY WERE NEVER ALONE. EVERY DAY, IN EVERY MOMENT, GOD IS NEAR. WHEN YOU’RE HAPPY, WORRIED, OR UNSURE, HE IS RIGHT BESIDE YOU, OFFERING LOVE AND COMFORT. YOU CAN TRUST THAT WHEREVER YOU GO, GOD GOES WITH YOU.

Family Reflection

WHEN HAVE YOU FELT “GOD WITH YOU”?

WHY DOES IT MATTER THAT JESUS CAME CLOSE TO US?

*OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: LIGHT A CANDLE FOR THIS DAY AS YOU DO THIS ADVENT TOGETHER

December 4

GOD SPEAKS IN DREAMS

Scripture

JOB 33:14-15

GOD SPEAKS TO PEOPLE IN MANY
DIFFERENT WAYS, EVEN IF WE
DON'T ALWAYS NOTICE IT. HE
MAY SPEAK THROUGH DREAMS
OR QUIET THOUGHTS DURING
THE NIGHT WHEN WE ARE
ASLEEP.

Devotion

THROUGHOUT SCRIPTURE, WHICH IS THE WORD
OF GOD, GOD USES DREAMS AND VISIONS TO
GUIDE HIS PEOPLE. DREAMS ARE ONE OF
GOD'S GENTLE WAYS OF SPEAKING—
WHISPERING TRUTH, ENCOURAGEMENT, OR
WARNING. GOD CARES SO DEEPLY FOR HIS
PEOPLE THAT HE FINDS MANY WAYS TO REACH
US.

Family Reflection

HAVE YOU HAD A DREAM THAT FELT
MEANINGFUL?

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS GOD SPEAKS TO US
TODAY?

*OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: START A "DREAM JOURNAL" TO WRITE OR DRAW DREAMS THIS MONTH.

December 5

JOSEPH'S FIRST DREAM

Scripture

MATTHEW 1:18-21

MARY WAS GOING TO HAVE A BABY BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND JOSEPH WASN'T SURE WHAT TO DO. BUT AN ANGEL CAME TO HIM IN A DREAM AND SAID, "DON'T BE AFRAID. THE BABY IS FROM GOD. MARY WILL HAVE A SON, AND YOU WILL NAME HIM JESUS BECAUSE HE WILL SAVE HIS PEOPLE."

Devotion

JOSEPH FELT CONFUSED AND WORRIED WHEN HE FOUND OUT MARY WAS GOING TO HAVE A BABY. BUT GOD DIDN'T LET HIM STAY SCARED. GOD SENT AN ANGEL IN A DREAM TO SAY, "DON'T BE AFRAID." THAT DREAM HELPED JOSEPH FEEL CALM AND KNOW WHAT TO DO NEXT. GOD CAN BRING US PEACE AND HELP US UNDERSTAND THINGS WHEN WE'RE UNSURE.

Family Reflection

WHAT SCARES YOU SOMETIMES?

HOW DOES GOD HELP US NOT BE AFRAID?



December 6

JOSEPH FOLLOWS GOD'S CALLING

Scripture

MATTHEW 1:24-25

WHEN JOSEPH WOKE UP, HE DID
EXACTLY WHAT THE ANGEL TOLD
HIM TO DO. HE TOOK MARY AS
HIS WIFE.

Devotion

WHEN JOSEPH WOKE UP, HE COULD HAVE
IGNORED THE DREAM, BUT HE DIDN'T. HE
OBEYED GOD IMMEDIATELY. OBEDIENCE IS
OFTEN THE HARDEST PART OF FOLLOWING
GOD'S DREAMS, OBEDIENCE IS LISTENING TO
GOD. JOSEPH TEACHES US WHAT FAITH LOOKS
LIKE IN ACTION.

Family Reflection

WHEN IS IT HARD TO FOLLOW GOD?

WHY IS LISTENING AN IMPORTANT PART OF
FAITH?

*OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: MAKE A LIST OF SMALL ACTS OF OBEDIENCE TO PRACTICE THIS WEEK.

December 7

MARY'S VISIT FROM GABRIEL

Scripture

LUKE 1:26-33

GOD SENT THE ANGEL GABRIEL TO MARY IN NAZARETH. HE TOLD HER, "DON'T BE AFRAID. GOD HAS CHOSEN YOU. YOU WILL HAVE A BABY NAMED JESUS. HE WILL BE GOD'S SON AND A FOREVER KING."

Devotion

MARY WAS A YOUNG GIRL WHEN THE ANGEL GABRIEL APPEARED WITH GOD'S MESSAGE. SHE WAS CHOSEN TO BRING JESUS INTO THE WORLD. GOD OFTEN USES PEOPLE WHO FEEL SMALL OR UNIMPORTANT TO ACCOMPLISH HIS BIGGEST DREAMS.

Family Reflection

WHEN HAVE YOU BEEN ASKED TO DO SOMETHING BIG?

WHY DO YOU THINK GOD CHOSE MARY?

*OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: DRAW OR PAINT AN ANGEL.

December 8

DO NOT BE AFRAID, MARY

Scripture

LUKE 1:34-38

MARY ASKED, "HOW CAN THIS
HAPPEN?"

THE ANGEL SAID, "GOD WILL
MAKE IT POSSIBLE. NOTHING IS
TOO HARD FOR HIM."

MARY REPLIED, "I AM GOD'S S
CHILD. I WILL DO WHAT HE
SAYS."

Devotion

MARY DIDN'T FULLY UNDERSTAND GOD'S PLAN, BUT SHE TRUSTED HIM. "MAY IT BE TO ME AS YOU HAVE SAID," SHE RESPONDED. MARY BELIEVED THAT GOD'S DREAM FOR HER LIFE WAS GOOD. SOMETIMES GOD ASKS US TO FOLLOW HIM EVEN WHEN WE DON'T SEE THE WHOLE PICTURE.

Family Reflection

WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU DON'T FULLY
UNDERSTAND BUT TRUST GOD WITH?

WHY IS MARY'S TRUST BRAVE?

December 9

MARY'S SONG OF PRAISE

Scripture

LUKE 1:46-49

MARY SAID, "MY HEART PRAISES
GOD!

MY SPIRIT IS HAPPY BECAUSE
GOD IS MY SAVIOR.

HE HAS NOTICED ME, EVEN
THOUGH I AM NOT IMPORTANT.

FROM NOW ON, PEOPLE WILL
REMEMBER THE GREAT THINGS

GOD HAS DONE FOR ME,
BECAUSE HE IS POWERFUL AND
HOLY."

Devotion

MARY SANG A SPECIAL SONG TO GOD BECAUSE
HER HEART WAS SO FULL OF JOY. SHE KNEW
GOD WAS DOING SOMETHING AMAZING. WHEN
WE PRAISE GOD, WE ARE JOINING IN THE
WONDERFUL THINGS HE IS DOING IN THE
WORLD.

Family Reflection

WHAT CAN YOUR FAMILY PRAISE GOD FOR
TODAY?

WHY IS SINGING AND WORSHIP SO POWERFUL?

December 10

ISAIAH'S DREAM OF PEACE

Scripture

ISAIAH 11:1-6

A NEW LEADER WILL COME FROM
JESSE'S FAMILY, THE FATHER OF
KING DAVID, LIKE A TINY BRANCH
GROWING FROM A STUMP. GOD
WILL FILL HIM WITH WISDOM,
STRENGTH, AND GOODNESS. HE
WILL BE FAIR, HELP THE POOR,
AND BRING PEACE.
WHEN HE COMES, THE WORLD
WILL BE SAFE AND CALM—
ANIMALS WILL LIVE TOGETHER
PEACEFULLY, AND CHILDREN WILL
LEAD THEM. EVERYONE WILL
KNOW GOD, AND HIS PEACE WILL
FILL THE EARTH.

Devotion

ISAIAH DREAMED OF A PEACEFUL KINGDOM,
WOLVES LYING WITH LAMBS, CHILDREN PLAYING
SAFELY, THE WHOLE WORLD AT HARMONY. THIS
IS GOD'S DREAM FOR CREATION. ADVENT
REMINDS US THAT JESUS IS BRINGING THIS
PEACE TO LIFE.

Family Reflection

WHAT DOES PEACE LOOK LIKE IN YOUR HOME?
HOW CAN YOU BRING PEACE TO SOMEONE THIS
WEEK?

*OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: START A "DREAM JOURNAL" TO WRITE OR DRAW DREAMS THIS MONTH.

December 11

GOD CHOOSES BETHLEHEM

Scripture

MICAH 5:2

GOD SAYS, "BETHLEHEM, EVEN
THOUGH YOU ARE A SMALL TOWN,
SOMEONE VERY IMPORTANT WILL
COME FROM YOU, SOMEONE WHO
WILL BE A RULER FOR MY
PEOPLE. HE HAS BEEN PART OF
MY PLAN SINCE THE
BEGINNING."

Devotion

BETHLEHEM WAS TINY, ALMOST UNIMPORTANT.
YET GOD CHOSE IT TO BE THE BIRTHPLACE OF
THE KING. GOD OFTEN WORKS IN PLACES WE
DON'T EXPECT. HIS DREAMS RARELY FOLLOW
THE WORLD'S RULES.

Family Reflection

WHAT SMALL THING HAS MADE A BIG
DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIFE?

WHY DOES GOD LOVE USING THE UNEXPECTED?

December 12

FAMILY TRADITIONS AND SACRED STORIES

Scripture

DEUTERONOMY 6:6-7
KEEP GOD'S WORDS IN YOUR HEART. TALK ABOUT THEM ALL THE TIME WHEN YOU'RE AT HOME, WHEN YOU'RE WALKING AROUND, WHEN YOU GO TO BED, AND WHEN YOU GET UP IN THE MORNING, TELL EVERYONE YOU KNOW ABOUT JESUS AND YOUR LOVE FOR HIM.

Devotion

GOD INSTRUCTS FAMILIES TO SHARE HIS STORIES, WHILE SITTING, WALKING, AND RESTING. TRADITIONS HELP US CARRY GOD'S DREAMS FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT. YOUR CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS TELL A STORY OF FAITH, LOVE, AND BELONGING.

Family Reflection

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FAMILY CHRISTMAS TRADITION?

WHAT TRADITION COULD YOU START THIS YEAR?

*OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: CREATE A FAMILY TRADITIONS LIST AND KEEP IN A SPECIAL PLACE

December 13

THE HOPE GOD GIVES US

Scripture

PROVERBS 13:12

WHEN SOMETHING YOU REALLY
HOPE FOR TAKES A LONG TIME,
IT CAN MAKE YOUR HEART FEEL
SAD. BUT WHEN A HOPE FINALLY
COMES TRUE, IT BRINGS JOY AND
MAKES YOU FEEL ALIVE AGAIN.

Devotion

HOPE IS LIKE FUEL FOR THE HEART. WHEN OUR
HOPES ARE DELAYED, IT CAN HURT, BUT WHEN
A DREAM COMES TRUE, OUR HEARTS FEEL
ALIVE. JESUS IS THE FULFILLMENT OF THE
WORLD'S DEEPEST HOPE.

Family Reflection

WHAT ARE YOU HOPING FOR THIS ADVENT?

HOW DOES JESUS BRING HOPE TO YOUR LIFE?



December 14

THE JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

Scripture

LUKE 2:1-5

A RULER NAMED CAESAR AUGUSTUS MADE A LAW THAT EVERYONE HAD TO GO BACK TO THEIR HOMETOWN TO BE COUNTED.

SO JOSEPH HAD TO TRAVEL FROM NAZARETH TO BETHLEHEM, THE TOWN HIS FAMILY CAME FROM. MARY WENT WITH HIM. SHE WAS GOING TO HAVE A BABY SOON.

THEY MADE THE LONG TRIP TOGETHER SO THEY COULD BE COUNTED JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.

Devotion

MARY AND JOSEPH TRAVELED FAR WHILE MARY WAS VERY PREGNANT. IT WASN'T EASY. SOMETIMES FOLLOWING GOD'S DREAM REQUIRES HARD WORK AND ENDURANCE. THEIR JOURNEY REMINDS US THAT GOD IS WITH US EVEN IN THE DIFFICULT PATH.

Family Reflection

WHEN HAS YOUR FAMILY FACED SOMETHING HARD TOGETHER?

HOW DID GOD HELP YOU THROUGH IT?

*OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: GO ON A FAMILY WALK AND TALK ABOUT TRUSTING GOD ON THE JOURNEY.

December 15

PREPARING THE WAY

Scripture

ISAIAH 40:3-5

A VOICE IS CALLING OUT:
'PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE
LORD! MAKE A STRAIGHT PATH
FOR OUR GOD. EVERY VALLEY
WILL BE FILLED, EVERY
MOUNTAIN AND HILL MADE LOW.
ROUGH GROUND WILL BECOME
SMOOTH. THEN EVERYONE WILL
SEE GOD'S GLORY!

Devotion

GOD TOLD HIS PEOPLE, "PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD!" DURING ADVENT, WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS BY SLOWING DOWN, BEING KIND, AND MAKING ROOM FOR GOD. WHEN WE DO, WE CLEAR A PATH FOR JESUS' LOVE TO SHINE IN OUR LIVES.

Family Reflection

HOW CAN WE "MAKE ROOM" FOR JESUS THIS WEEK?

WHAT THINGS CROWD OUR HEARTS OR SCHEDULES?



December 16

THE SHEPHERDS HEAR THE NEWS

Scripture

LUKE 2:8-10

THAT NIGHT, SHEPHERDS WERE OUT IN THE FIELDS WATCHING THEIR SHEEP.

SUDDENLY, AN ANGEL APPEARED, AND GOD'S BRIGHT LIGHT SHONE AROUND THEM. THE SHEPHERDS WERE VERY SCARED! BUT THE ANGEL SAID, "DON'T BE AFRAID! I HAVE GOOD NEWS, JOYFUL NEWS, FOR EVERYONE!"

Devotion

SHEPHERDS WERE ORDINARY PEOPLE; YET GOD CHOSE THEM FIRST TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS. GOD LOVES SURPRISING PEOPLE WITH GRACE. THE ANGEL SAID, "DO NOT BE AFRAID," REMINDING US AGAIN THAT GOD'S DREAMS CHASE AWAY FEAR.

Family Reflection

WHY DO YOU THINK GOD TOLD SHEPHERDS FIRST?

WHO ARE PEOPLE TODAY THAT OTHERS MIGHT OVERLOOK, BUT GOD CARES ABOUT?



December 17

A SKY FULL OF ANGELS

Scripture

LUKE 2:11-14

“TODAY IN BETHLEHEM A SAVIOR HAS BEEN BORN FOR YOU. HE IS CHRIST THE LORD! YOU WILL FIND THE BABY WRAPPED IN CLOTHS AND LYING IN A MANGER.”

SUDDENLY, A HUGE GROUP OF ANGELS APPEARED WITH THE FIRST ANGEL. THEY PRAISED GOD AND SAID, “GLORY TO GOD IN HEAVEN, AND PEACE ON EARTH TO EVERYONE HE LOVES!”

Devotion

A WHOLE CHOIR OF ANGELS FILLED THE SKY WITH LIGHT AND SONG. HEAVEN COULDN'T CONTAIN ITS JOY! WHEN GOD'S DREAM COMES TO LIFE, HEAVEN AND EARTH CELEBRATE TOGETHER.

Family Reflection

WHAT BRINGS JOY TO HEAVEN TODAY?

HOW DOES YOUR FAMILY CELEBRATE GOOD NEWS?

*OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: CREATE AN ANGEL ORNAMENT TO HANG ON YOUR TREE.

A detailed painting of the Nativity scene serves as the background. It depicts Mary and Joseph with the infant Jesus in a manger, surrounded by shepherds and angels. The scene is set in a stable with straw on the floor and a warm, golden light emanating from the baby Jesus.

December 18

THE SHEPHERDS HURRY TO JESUS

Scripture

LUKE 2:11-14

THE SHEPHERDS HURRIED TO BETHLEHEM AND FOUND MARY, JOSEPH, AND BABY JESUS IN THE MANGER. THEY TOLD EVERYONE WHAT THE ANGELS HAD SAID, AND PEOPLE WERE AMAZED. MARY TREASURED THESE MOMENTS IN HER HEART. THE SHEPHERDS WENT BACK PRAISING GOD FOR ALL THEY HAD SEEN AND HEARD.

Devotion

THE SHEPHERDS DIDN'T WAIT, THEY RAN TO SEE JESUS. THEN THEY SHARED THE GOOD NEWS WITH EVERYONE THEY MET. WHEN WE MEET JESUS, WE CANNOT HELP BUT SHARE HIS LOVE.

Family Reflection

WHAT IS SOMETHING GOOD YOU WANT TO SHARE WITH OTHERS?

HOW CAN YOU BE LIKE THE SHEPHERDS THIS WEEK?

December 19

THE WISE MEN BEGIN THEIR SEARCH

Scripture

MATTHEW 2:1-2
AFTER JESUS WAS BORN, SOME WISE MEN FROM FAR AWAY CAME TO JERUSALEM. THEY ASKED, "WHERE IS THE BABY WHO WAS BORN TO BE KING OF THE JEWS? WE SAW HIS SPECIAL STAR IN THE SKY, AND WE CAME TO WORSHIP HIM!"

Devotion

THE MAGI, THE THREE KINGS, TRAVELED FAR BECAUSE THEY WERE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH. GOD MEETS US WHEN WE SEEK HIM. THEIR JOURNEY REMINDS US THAT GOD REVEALS HIMSELF TO PEOPLE EVERYWHERE.

Family Reflection

WHAT HELPS YOU LOOK FOR GOD IN YOUR LIFE?
WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE ABOUT GOD?



December 20

THE STAR THAT LED THEM

Scripture

MATTHEW 2:9-10

AFTER THE WISE MEN
HEARD THE KING, THEY
FOLLOWED THE STAR
AGAIN. THE STAR LED
THEM TO THE PLACE
WHERE JESUS WAS.
WHEN THEY SAW THE
STAR STOP, THEY WERE
FILLED WITH JOY AND
EXCITEMENT!

Devotion

THE STAR GUIDED THE WISE MEN WITH JOY.
GOD OFTEN GIVES US “STARS”, SIGNS,
PEOPLE, OR MOMENTS, THAT GUIDE OUR
HEARTS. WE JUST NEED EYES TO SEE THEM.

Family Reflection

WHO IN YOUR LIFE IS LIKE A “GUIDING STAR”
FOR YOU?

HOW CAN YOU GUIDE SOMEONE ELSE TOWARD
JESUS?

*OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: GO OUTSIDE AND LOOK AT THE NIGHT SKY

December 21

GIFTS FOR A KING

Scripture

MATTHEW 2:11

THE WISE MEN WENT INTO THE HOUSE AND SAW JESUS WITH HIS MOTHER, MARY. THEY BOWED DOWN AND WORSHIPED HIM. THEN THEY OPENED THEIR TREASURE BOXES AND GAVE HIM GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH.

Devotion

GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH WERE THOUGHTFUL GIFTS FIT FOR A KING, PRIEST, AND SACRIFICE. THE WISE MEN RECOGNIZED JESUS FOR WHO HE TRULY WAS. OUR GIFTS TO GOD, KINDNESS, SERVICE, WORSHIP; ALSO HONOR HIM.

Family Reflection

WHAT GIFT CAN YOU GIVE JESUS THIS WEEK?

WHY ARE MEANINGFUL GIFTS MORE SPECIAL THAN EXPENSIVE ONES?

December 22

JOSEPH'S SECOND DREAM

Scripture

MATTHEW 2:13

AFTER THE WISE MEN LEFT, AN ANGEL APPEARED TO JOSEPH IN A DREAM. THE ANGEL SAID, "GET UP! TAKE MARY AND JESUS AND ESCAPE TO EGYPT. STAY THERE UNTIL I TELL YOU, BECAUSE KING HEROD IS LOOKING FOR JESUS AND WANTS TO HARM HIM."

Devotion

ONCE AGAIN GOD SPEAKS TO JOSEPH IN A DREAM, THIS TIME TO PROTECT JESUS FROM DANGER. GOD WATCHES OVER HIS CHILDREN WITH CARE, WARNING US, GUIDING US, AND SURROUNDING US WITH PROTECTION.

Family Reflection

HOW HAS GOD PROTECTED YOUR FAMILY?
WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT GOD WATCHES OVER US?

December 23

GOD FULFILLS HIS PROMISES

Scripture

MATTHEW 2:19-20
AFTER KING HEROD
DIED, AN ANGEL
APPEARED TO JOSEPH
IN A DREAM WHILE HE
WAS IN EGYPT. THE
ANGEL SAID, "GET UP!
TAKE MARY AND JESUS
BACK TO ISRAEL,
BECAUSE THE PEOPLE
WHO WANTED TO HURT
JESUS ARE GONE."

Devotion

EVERY DREAM, EVERY MOMENT IN THE STORY
SHOWS GOD'S FAITHFULNESS. HE KEEPS HIS
PROMISES. CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION
THAT GOD FINISHES WHAT HE BEGINS.

Family Reflection

WHAT PROMISE OF GOD MEANS THE MOST TO
YOU?
WHEN HAS GOD KEPT A PROMISE IN YOUR
FAMILY'S LIFE?



December 24

THE NIGHT EVERYTHING CHANGED

Scripture

LUKE 2:1-20

MARY AND JOSEPH WENT TO BETHLEHEM, AND THAT'S WHERE JESUS WAS BORN AND LAID IN A MANGER.

ANGELS TOLD NEARBY SHEPHERDS THE GOOD NEWS, AND THE SHEPHERDS HURRIED TO SEE THE BABY.

THEY CELEBRATED, TOLD OTHERS WHAT THEY SAW, AND PRAISED GOD. MARY TREASURED IT ALL IN HER HEART.

Devotion

ON THIS HOLY NIGHT, THE WORLD GREW QUIET AS JESUS, THE LONG-AWAITED SAVIOR, WAS BORN. ANGELS SANG, SHEPHERDS HURRIED TO SEE HIM, AND LIGHT ENTERED THE DARKNESS. CHRISTMAS EVE INVITES US TO PAUSE IN WONDER AND REMEMBER THAT GOD CAME CLOSE IN THE HUMBLE STILLNESS OF A MANGER. TONIGHT, WE CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF JESUS.

Family Reflection

WHAT PART OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY IS MOST MEANINGFUL TO YOU?

HOW CAN YOUR FAMILY MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS IN YOUR HEARTS TONIGHT?

*OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: BY CANDLELIGHT, PRAY TOGETHER,

December 25

JESUS, THE DREAM COME TRUE

Scripture

JOHN 1: 14

GOD'S SON BECAME
A HUMAN AND LIVED
AMONG US. WE GOT
TO SEE HOW
WONDERFUL HE IS—
FULL OF LOVE,
KINDNESS, AND
TRUTH; JUST LIKE THE
FATHER.

Devotion

JESUS IS GOD'S DREAM FOR THE WORLD;
PEACE, LOVE, FORGIVENESS, AND ETERNAL
LIFE. TODAY WE CELEBRATE THAT GOD CAME TO
BE WITH US, TO STAY WITH US, AND TO SAVE US.
THE GREATEST GIFT THE WORLD HAS EVER
KNOWN IS

Family Reflection

WHAT DOES "GOD WITH US" MEAN TO YOU
PERSONALLY?

HOW WILL YOUR FAMILY LIVE OUT GOD'S LOVE
IN THE NEW YEAR?

