RED LETTER

ADVENT

25 DAYS OF UNBOXING HOPE, PEACE, JOY, AND LOVE

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ADVENT CHALLENGE Family Addition

We have created a little 'addition' edition to our Red Letter Advent for families with young children. We encourage you to read the daily devotional in our book before leading your family through each devotional. These short summaries of each day, along with discussion questions and a list of fun family challenges at the end of the addition are just what you need to lead your children through the Advent Season with their eyes on what matters most: Jesus.

DAY 1 - WHAT IS ADVENT?

Just like when we celebrate Christmas and get gifts, the biggest gift ever was when Jesus was born. He came to help everyone and give them a special gift, but not everyone understood how important it was. Even though many people say they believe in Jesus, not many actually follow what he taught. It's like getting a present but never opening it.

Advent is a special time before Christmas when we get ready to celebrate Jesus's birth. Long ago, a pastor in Germany made the first Advent wreath with four candles to count down the weeks. Each Sunday, we light one more candle to remember hope, peace, joy, and love. Today, people also use Advent calendars with little treats inside to count down to Christmas. Even though Advent isn't in the Bible, it helps us remember the waiting for Jesus's first and second coming. So, as we wait, we share light and love with everyone around us.

Jesus wants you to enjoy the good things he has for you, like opening a gift every day. So, this Advent, you will learn about why it's important to understand Jesus's gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How much do you think about opening presents on Christmas?
- 2. Why do you think we wrap up presents? Why are hope, peace, joy, and love like presents?
- 3. What does it mean to "open" the gift of Jesus every day? How can we as a family follow Jesus daily, and what might that look like for you, as kids?

HOPE

DAY 2 HOPE - ADD TO CART

Hoping is like adding things to a shopping cart; sometimes, we add too much. You might hope for things like good weather or lovely gifts, but those hopes are like wishing for something without

knowing if it will happen. In the Bible, hope is like a strong rope we can rely on. It's not just wishing; it's being sure something good will happen.

Long ago, people hoped for a messiah to come and save them. Then, angels announced that this person, Jesus, was born. When you hope in Jesus, you're not just wishing; you know something wonderful will happen because God promised it. Even when things seem dark, you can trust Jesus to make everything right. Just like Anne Frank hoped to be a writer, and her hope came true, your hopes for Jesus will come true, too.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. What things might you hope for, like good weather or nice gifts?
- 2. Why do you think hope in Jesus is compared to a strong rope in the Bible?
- 3. Can you think of a time when you felt like things were dark or difficult? How might hoping in Jesus help us during those times?

DAY 3 HOPE - CHECKOUT

Yesterday, you learned about hope and added it to your cart. Today, you're at the Checkout Stage, where you see that hope comes with a big cost. You looked at a report ranking countries by happiness, and it showed us that hope is linked to feeling good about the future.

In the United States, hope used to come from religion, then patriotism, and now often from getting what you want. But these hopes can divide us. In Israel, prophets brought hope of a coming Messiah, Jesus, who offers hope to everyone. No matter where you've looked for hope, Jesus offers you the greatest hope at a price only he could pay, giving you confidence for the future.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Rank your happiness: 1-10. (one being low, ten being high)
- 2. What do some people put their hope in?
- 3. Jesus died for you on the cross so you can have hope in heaven. How does that make you feel about your future?

DAY 4 HOPE - IN TRANSIT

The gift of hope is coming, and we are waiting for it. Like the explorer Ernest Shackleton, who left his men on an island and promised to return for them, we are waiting for Jesus to come back. Shackleton's men waited 128 days, always ready because they trusted he would return. We should also be ready for Jesus, just like they were. Jesus came once to bring us hope, and He promised to come back. We need to keep our hope in him, not in other things like presents or our own goodness. Let's wait patiently knowing Jesus comes for us every day.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Why was it important for Shackleton's men to stay ready every day while they waited for him?
- 2. What does it mean to put your hope in Jesus instead of in things like toys or money?
- 3. What happens when you are not ready for Jesus? Will he still come for you?

DAY 5 HOPE - HANDLE WITH CARE

Sometimes, when we buy something, it comes in a box with a sticker that says, "Handle with Care." Just like we handle special things gently, we should be kind to people, especially when they feel lonely or sad. Melissa and Doug make fun toys that lots of kids like to play with. But even though they have a big house and lots of money, Melissa had a hard time feeling happy when she was younger. She wondered why she was here and what life meant. But now, Melissa wants to help others feel hopeful. Sometimes, people feel like they didn't get what they hoped for, and others got what they wanted but still feel sad. Getting what you want will not make you happy. But the best hope is in Jesus. He helps us feel better and brings us happiness. So, let's be kind to each other and share hope together!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Why is it important to handle special things gently, as mentioned in the paragraph?
- 2. Have you ever felt like Melissa did? What happened?
- 3. How can Jesus help you feel better and bring you happiness?

DAY 6 HOPE - DELIVERED

Do you have a nativity at your house? Our Willow Tree nativity set has been with us for many years, even though it's a bit damaged now. We love putting it up every Christmas because it tells the story of Jesus's birth. We used to think the three wise men were kings but they were not. They were magi, likely astrologers from Persia, and there might have been more than three. They didn't visit Jesus at the stable but arrived when he was older. The magi followed a star to find Jesus, showing that God's hope was for everyone, not just the important or wise. This story teaches us that God's love includes everyone, no matter who they are.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Why do you think the nativity set is important for celebrating Christmas?
- 2. A start is a teenie tiny thing. Why did the magi follow a star to find Jesus?
- 3. How does the nativity story show that God's love is for everyone?

DAY 7 HOPE - RETURNS

Gloria felt very sad as a child because her dad left and she moved a lot with her mom and sisters. At 16, she became the saddest and loneliest she had ever been at a church event, but someone talked about hope and prayed for her, changing her heart. Gloria now helps others find hope with a project called The Hope Booth.

Jesus gave hope to a lonely and sad Samaritan woman. Gloria's story shows how sharing hope as Jesus did with the Samaritan woman at the well, can make a big difference in people's lives.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How do you think Gloria's experience of feeling sad as a child shaped her desire to help others find hope?
- 2. Why do you think someone talking about hope and praying for Gloria made such a big difference in her life?
- 3. How can we share hope with others, as Jesus did with the Samaritan woman at the well?

PEACE

DAY 8 PEACE - ADD TO CART

People try to find peace in different ways. Some avoid bad things and hard talks to keep the peace. Others think peace comes from being powerful, as the Romans did. Some believe peace is about being perfect and following lots of rules. But Jesus gives a different kind of peace. He helped people, faced problems, and made friends, even with those who didn't like him. Jesus's peace is about love and helping others. We can have this special peace from Jesus and share it with everyone.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1.	What are some different ways people find peace? Check all those you agree with:
	distractions like screens keeping everyone happy always obeying the rules
	only having fun not saying anything when I see something wrong
	being bossy so everyone agrees with me only hanging with people who like me
2.	How does Jesus's idea of peace differ from what some people think about peace?
3.	How has Jesus given you his peace?

DAY 9 PEACE - CHECKOUT

Pastor Zach didn't hang Christmas lights when he was a kid, but he wanted to do it with his family. But when he tried to hang lights in Florida, they kept breaking. After spending \$400 and many trips to the store, the lights still needed to be fixed. Pastor Zach felt upset and jealous of other homes with perfect lights. His family took over the lights in later years, and now his house looks beautiful. Seeing Christmas lights reminds him of the hard work behind the scenes. Like the story of baby Jesus, there was a high cost for peace. Jesus was born in tough times, and later, he died on the cross to bring peace to the world. His light shines in the darkness, showing you true peace.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How does hanging Christmas lights relate to the story of baby Jesus?
- 2. Why do you think Pastor Zach felt upset and jealous when his lights didn't work?
- 3. What was the high cost of peace in Jesus's birth and sacrifice?

DAY 10 PEACE - IN TRANSIT

Even though the USA has lots of cool stuff and technology, it's one of the most stressed countries, especially during Christmas. People feel stressed because of relationships, time, and money. God never promised a life without problems, but he does promise peace even in tough times. To reduce stress, deciding who gets your time and attention, what you spend your time doing, and how you spend your money is essential. Asking, "Is it wise?" before making decisions can help reduce stress. Jesus invites us to share our burdens with him so we don't have to carry everything alone. This Christmas, remember that true peace comes from being close to Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. If parents are stressed, how does that make kids feel?
- 2. How can we apply the idea of asking, "Is it wise?" before making decisions to reduce stress in our lives, especially during the holiday season?
- 3. How can you share your burdens with Jesus to find peace during stressful times?

DAY 11 PEACE - HANDLE WITH CARE

A Christmas card showed a perfect family and made Pastor Zach feel like his family wasn't good enough. But then he realized that even though the photo looked perfect, it didn't show the real struggles behind it, like arguments and problems. Pastor Zach and his wife Allison learned that no family is perfect, just like the family of Jesus wasn't perfect. Jesus understands our problems and gives us peace. Even when things don't go well, we can trust in Jesus and find peace.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Why do you think people sometimes feel like their family isn't good enough when they see pictures of seemingly perfect families, like on Christmas cards?
- 2. How can understanding that no family is perfect, including Jesus's family, help us feel better about our own family and its imperfections?
- 3. How can we trust Jesus and find peace, even when things don't go well in our families or lives?

DAY 12 PEACE - DELIVERED

When his first son, Nathan, was born long ago, Pastor Zach wanted to tell everyone about it. His wife, Allison, thought of a fun way to do it. She dressed Nathan up in a tiny hot dog costume for Halloween and took a cute picture. They put his name, birth date, and how big he was on it. It was adorable!

But when their second son, Brady, was born, things were different. They had social media, like Facebook, where they could tell everyone quickly. But when Jesus was born, it was even more special. His mom, Mary, didn't have social media. Instead, angels told some shepherds about him in a field. Those shepherds were surprised! They were dirty from their work and didn't think they were important. But God still told them about Jesus. Jesus came to make everyone happy and clean, even if they felt messy inside. That's why Christmas is special.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How did your mom and dad share your birth to the world? Find the post or picture.
- 2. Why do you think the angels chose to tell the shepherds about Jesus instead of other people in the town?
- 3. How can we make others feel happy and special during Christmas?

DAY 13 PEACE - RETURNS

Pastor Zach's family has a lot of pastors in it, which some people find surprising. But it's not that strange. Studies show that what your parents do for work can influence your choice. For example, if your dad is a legislator, you will likely become one. And if your mom is a nurse, you might become a nurse, too. So, it's not a big surprise that Zach became a pastor like his dad.

Jesus also talked about peace and how important it is. He said that peacemakers are special because they bring peace like God does. Being a peacemaker means trying to make peace where there's fighting or disagreement. Jesus didn't like how people tried to make peace by making many rules or fighting with others. He showed us a better way to bring peace: serving others and being kind. We can be peacemakers by being kind to everyone we meet and trying to make things better when there's a problem.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. What jobs do your mom and dad have? Have you ever thought of doing the same?
- 2. Why do you think Jesus emphasized the importance of being a peacemaker?
- 3. Can you think of a time when being kind helped resolve a fight or bring peace?



DAY 14 JOY - ADD TO CART

Sometimes, people get excited about buying many things on Black Friday after Thanksgiving. But that can make us forget about being thankful for what we have. We might even forget about being happy with the presents we already got. It's okay to like getting presents, but we shouldn't let it make us greedy. We should remember to be thankful for what we already have. People might get lots of stuff, but that doesn't always make them happy. A guy a long time ago named Thomas Aquinas said that even if we had everything in the world, we still wouldn't be completely happy. He

said the only thing that can make us truly happy is God. So, even though getting presents is fun, God is the best gift of all.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How does getting caught up in buying things on Black Friday affect how we feel about what we already have?
- 2. Why do you think Thomas Aquinas believed that having everything in the world wouldn't make someone completely happy?
- 3. How can we remember to be thankful for what we already have, especially during times like Black Friday?

DAY 15 JOY - CHECKOUT

Laughter is super important because it makes us feel good and helps us stay healthy. Laughing can make us live longer, feel less stressed, and even be happier! Plus, when we laugh, it shows others how joyful we are, which can make them happy too. Jesus wants us to be cheerful and share that joy with others. Even though life can be tricky sometimes, we can still laugh because Jesus is always with us and making things better. So, let's keep laughing and spreading joy everywhere we go!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How does laughter make you feel?
- 2. Why do you think it's important to share joy with others?
- 3. How can remembering that Jesus is always with us help us find joy even during tough times?

DAY 16 JOY - IN TRANSIT

Waiting for something exciting can sometimes be even better than the thing itself! It's like when you're excited about a birthday party or a fun trip. But waiting can also be hard, especially when you know something really good is coming like Jesus coming back. John the Baptist knew a lot about waiting and being in the middle, like when waiting for something cool to happen. John was like the bridge between the old stories in the Bible and the new ones about Jesus. He brought so much joy to his family even before he was born. When he met Jesus, he was so happy that he jumped for joy before he was born! That's why he's known as the saint of joy. Even though he became famous, John always remembered that Jesus was the real star. He showed us that it's important to be happy supporting others, just like you might be happy when your friend does something awesome. So, even when we're waiting or helping someone shine, we can still be joyful because Jesus is always with us, bringing light and happiness wherever we go!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How do you feel when you're waiting for something exciting to happen?
- 2. Why do you think John the Baptist is known as the saint of joy?
- 3. How can we find joy in supporting others and celebrating their successes?

DAY 17 JOY - HANDLE WITH CARE

Life isn't always easy; sometimes, we have hard questions or feel sad. But even when things are tough, Jesus is with us, ready to help and comfort us. He promises to be by our side, like a friend who helps us when we're sad. Jesus came to be with us, especially when we're hurting or going through hard times. Even when we feel alone or dark, we can always turn to Jesus. He's like a light that helps us see through the darkness. So, no matter what happens, we can keep our eyes on Jesus and find joy knowing he's always there for us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How do you know that Jesus is with you during hard times?
- 2. Can you think of a time when you felt comforted by knowing that Jesus was with you?
- 3. How can you help someone else during a sad time?

DAY 18 JOY - DELIVERED

Sometimes, we get gifts that surprise us, like socks with pandas on them. It might make us go, "Huh?" But just like that, there were also special gifts given to Jesus long ago. They were gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These gifts were more than just shiny presents. They were like special symbols telling us important things about Jesus. The gold showed that Jesus is a mighty king. The frankincense shows he is like a special priest who helps us. And the myrrh showed he would give up his life to save us. So, even though these gifts were unusual, they helped us understand who Jesus is and why he came to us. And the best gift is Jesus, who brings us joy and love.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Why do you think the wise men chose these specific gifts for Jesus?
- 2. How do you think these gifts helped people understand who Jesus is?
- 3. What do you think is the most important gift Jesus brings to us, and why?

DAY 19 JOY - RETURNS

Sometimes people get upset about little things, like whether someone says "Merry Christmas" or "Happy Holidays." But we must remember that even though words are powerful, Jesus is the reason for Christmas, not our words. Even if some people don't believe in Jesus, we can still share his joy. Jesus brings us happiness because he loves us and wants us to be joyful. He healed sick people, helped others, and even went to parties! Jesus gives us his joy so we can be happy every day, not just at Christmas. So, instead of worrying about what others say, let's share Jesus's joy with everyone we meet.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Why do you think some people get upset about whether others say "Merry Christmas" or "Happy Holidays"?
- 2. How can we share Jesus's joy with others, especially if they don't believe in him?

3. How can we focus on sharing joy with others, even when we have disagreements?



DAY 20 LOVE - ADD TO CART

When Pastor Zach and his wife Allison got married, they picked four important words to build their marriage on, like faithfulness and joy, but they forgot one important word: love. Like them, a church in Corinth also forgot about love, even though they were passionate and eager to learn. The apostle Paul reminded them that love is the most important thing and explained what love is and isn't. Love is patient and kind; it's not jealous or rude. Even though it might seem complicated to love like that, Paul said that Jesus brings us a special love that never fails. So, just like Pastor Zach and Allison added love to their marriage, you can also add love to your lives.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Why did Paul describe love as the most important thing?
- 2. How is love patient and kind in everyday life?
- 3. How does adding love make a difference in how you treat others and feel about yourself?

DAY 21 JOVE - CHECKOUT

Imagine getting a special phone plan that promised unlimited everything but then finding out it wasn't really unlimited at all. That happened to Pastor Zach and Allison with their cell phone plan. But there's something unlimited: God's love. It never runs out, and it's always there for everyone, no matter what. God's love is like a big rainstorm pouring on us with kindness and goodness. Even though it cost a lot, Jesus made sure we could have this unlimited love forever. So, just like the Zehnders learned to enjoy their unlimited phone plan, we can enjoy God's unlimited love every day!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How is God's love like an unlimited phone plan?
- 2. Do you feel like God's love is unlimited? If not, where does it end?
- 3. Can you think of ways to share God's unlimited love with others in your everyday lives?

DAY 22 JOVE - IN TRANSIT

God's love is like a present that we don't have to earn or pay for, and it's so special because it's totally free! Sometimes, we might think we must do things to be good enough for heaven, but that's not how it works. Even if we tried really hard, we could never be perfect enough for God. But God's love doesn't have any strings attached, so we don't have to worry about being good enough. It's like getting a cool gift we didn't have to work for or steal—it's just given to us! And even though God is in charge of everything, our choices still matter, which is how we get to be part

of God's plan. So, even though life might seem a little confusing sometimes, we can never forget that God's love is there for us, no matter what.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How is God's love to a present?
- 2. What do you have to do to earn God's love?
- 3. Can you think of a time today when you felt God's love?

DAY 23 JOVE - HANDLE WITH CARE

Christmas is a time of happiness, but sometimes sad things happen. We need to be kind to others who might be feeling down. Imagine buying something you already have—it's frustrating! Like a famous art collector who found out he owned a treasure he was searching for, sometimes we forget what we already have.

We all want love, like how famous people and even the Bible talk about it. God's love is like a big feast—plenty for everyone! Even though some love stories in movies have sad endings, God's love story is different. Jesus showed us love even after he died, His love story never ends. Just like how we should handle precious things carefully, we should open up and share God's love with others because it's a gift that never runs out. With Jesus, there really is a "happily ever after."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Can you think of a time when you felt sad during the holidays? How did you cope with those feelings?
- 2. Why do you think being kind to others is important, especially when they might feel sad?
- 3. How can you remember Jesus's love when you're feeling down?

DAY 24 JOVE - DELIVERED

Christmas gifts have changed a lot over the years. Long ago, people were happy with simple gifts like crayons and toy wagons. As time passed, new toys like Hula Hoops and video games became popular. But no matter how much things change, one gift has always stayed the same: Jesus. While toys get old and forgotten, Jesus's love never changes. Even though we can't see God like Adam and Eve could, we can still have faith and hope in him. We won't need faith or hope in heaven anymore because we'll be with God. But love will always be there. So, while toys come and go, Jesus's love for us will last forever.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Compare the types of gifts kids got at Christmas in the past to the gifts today. Are any of them the same?
- 2. Why do you think Jesus's love is compared to a gift that lasts forever?
- 3. How can you show Jesus's love to others during the Christmas season?

DAY 25 JOVE - RETURNS

In England, when people say "Merry Christmas," they might also say "Many happy returns!" But they're not talking about giving back gifts. It's like when you put money in a bank, which grows over time. The British mean they hope your happiness grows and multiplies.

Today's lesson is about love growing, too. God gave us love, and even though sometimes we look for love in the wrong places, God's love stays strong and faithful. He wants us to share that love with others. Remember the story of Saul? At first, he didn't believe in God, but God changed his life. God wants us to share his love as Saul did. Even though some people might not want to hear about Jesus, it's important to tell them because God's love is too good to keep to ourselves. So, let's share God's love with others.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. What happened to Saul? Why did God do that to him?
- 2. Can you think of a time when you felt God's love?
- 3. Why do you think sharing God's love with others is important, even if they may not initially want to hear about it?

FAMILY CHALLENGE IDEAS

When we practice what we learn, the lessons become life-long habits that kids carry with them through adulthood. But, in a busy season, the last thing we want to do is add another to-do list in life. So, we have made it easy for you by including twenty-five fun family challenges that you can pick and choose from. This flexible list works with all ages, schedules, and abilities. Do them all, do one each day, get some done on the weekends, or don't do any of them. It's all ok!

- P.S. If you snap a photo of your family doing any of the challenges or devotionals, don't forget to tag us at #redletteradvent.
- 1. Advent Calendar: Start each day of December with an Advent calendar, whether it's a traditional one with small treats or a DIY calendar with daily activities or Bible verses. On page 9 of your book, color the advent wreath with the right colors; three should be purple, and one should be pink. Then, add one flame to a purple candle for peace.
- 2. Decorate the House: Get the whole family to decorate the house with Christmas lights, ornaments, and other festive decorations. Talk about why decorating is like rope hope, being sure something will happen.
- 3. Create an Acts of Kindness Jar: Decorate a jar and encourage family members to write down acts of kindness they witness or perform throughout December. Read them together on Christmas Eve.

- 4. Write Your Christmas Wishes: Have the kids share their Christmas wishes and what they've been grateful for throughout the year.
- 5. Bake Christmas Treats: Bake cookies, gingerbread houses, or other holiday treats as a family. Don't forget to share some with neighbors or friends who may need to be handled with care.
- 6. Create a Nativity Scene: Set up a nativity scene together and talk about the story of Jesus' birth.
- 7. Watch Christmas Movies: Enjoy a Christmas movie together as a family, complete with popcorn and hot cocoa. Spending time with people who love you is a gift from God.
- 8. Visit a Christmas Market: Explore a local Christmas market or holiday fair to enjoy festive music, food, and crafts. A store or market has lots of things for sale. They can remind us that while there are lots of options out there, Jesus is the only true peace.
- 9. Drive to See Christmas Lights: Drive around the neighborhood to see the festive Christmas light displays. Christmas lights remind us of Jesus's peace.
- 10. Volunteer Together: Spend a day volunteering as a family at a local shelter, food bank, or charity event to spread Christmas cheer to those in need. Thinking about others helps you feel less stressed.
- 11. Sing Together or Go Caroling: Sing a couple of your favorite Christmas songs together. Better yet, spread holiday cheer by caroling around the neighborhood or at a local nursing home.
- 12. Read Christmas Stories: Gather around and read Christmas stories or books about the meaning of Christmas and the birth of Jesus.
- 13. Adopt a Family: Adopt a family in need for the holidays and shop together for gifts and essentials to brighten their Christmas. Having gifts under the tree can bring peace to stressed parents.
- 14. Write Gratitude Lists: Take time each day to write down things you're grateful for during the holiday season.
- 15. Host a Christmas Party: Host a small Christmas party with festive snacks, games, and activities for friends and family to enjoy. Parties can fill everyone with joy!
- 16. Make Homemade Gifts: John the Baptist liked simple things. He loved the outdoors and eating natural foods. Get creative and make homemade gifts like candles, bath bombs, or knitted scarves to give to friends and family.
- 17. Attend a Christmas Concert: Beautiful music creates happy chemicals in your brain. Attend a local Christmas concert or church service featuring holiday music and performances.
- 18. Make Christmas Crafts: Giving gifts is a special part of spreading joy on Christmas. Spend an afternoon making Christmas crafts like ornaments, homemade cards, or holiday-themed decorations.

- 19. Go Ice Skating: At an ice skating rink, you will see all kinds of skill levels. Whether you are an expert, or a newbie hanging onto the rail, everyone is invited to have fun. Head to a local ice skating rink for some winter fun together as a family.
- 20. Have a Family Game Night: Enjoy a night of board games or Christmas-themed trivia with the whole family.
- 21. Make Hot Cocoa: Love can feel like a warm drink on a cold day. Experiment with different hot cocoa recipes and create a hot cocoa bar with various toppings. Think about God's love warming you up as you enjoy your beverage.
- 22. Create a Family Photo Album: Pictures remind us of God's love through people, memories, and places. Compile photos from past Christmases or throughout the year into a family photo album to reminisce together.
- 23. Host a Cookie Exchange: When you share with others, you are giving and receiving love. Invite friends or family over for a cookie exchange where everyone brings their favorite holiday cookies to share.
- 24. Read From Your Giving Jar: Read through the acts of kindness you wrote down and put in the Acts of Kindness Jar. Gifts are more than presents under the tree. Sometimes, love is delivered through your kind acts.
- 25. Reflect and Plan. Take time as a family to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and make plans for spreading joy and love throughout the new year.