



**A CHRISTMAS
FAMILY DEVOTIONAL**



KIDS CHRISTMAS FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

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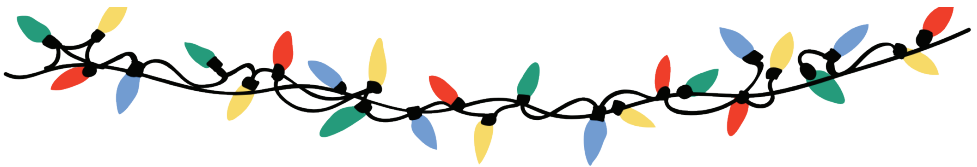
SOLI DEO GLORIA



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

This season is a joyful time to celebrate and remember the birth of Christ! As we approach Christmas day, this devotional is meant to help your family dive deep into Scripture and unravel the mystery of the Messiah's birth. God's great love for us can be seen in the devotional passages through the act of sending His only Son into the world. As we journey to Bethlehem, God leaves us with the gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Encourage the questions that arise, that last-minute prayer add-on, or the extra worship song your child requests. We are expectant for God to lead your family time during this week's devotions and to do a mighty work in our hearts. We look forward to families connecting through meaningful gospel conversations that closely knit you, your child, and Jesus together.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



HOW TO USE

1. Each page has a guide with different sections to go through each devotional thoughtfully with your family.
2. Open in prayer together or choose one family member to pray.
3. **Worship:** Spend some time as a family in worship as you prepare to open the Word. See if you can think of a song using the worship section prompts. Use the song you choose to sing or listen to as a family, or have each family member pick a song using the prompts.
4. **Bible Reading Passage & Discuss:** Read as a family and go through the questions together.
5. **Activity Pages:** Give your child the activity page to fill out as you are reading. Read over the activity page before starting the reading of the day so your child knows what to listen for carefully.
6. **Complete the weekly craft and/or memory verse.** Colour in the memory verse page and practice throughout the week. See which family members can recite the verse when you gather for the next devotional.
7. If your child doesn't understand or know something, that's okay! Leave room for discussion for them to ask questions so you can further help guide them to understand the gospel. Encourage the wonder and awe of the Lord!
8. Close in prayer as a family.



READING OUTLINE



WEEK 1:

AN ANCIENT PROPHECY

(Isaiah 9:1-7, Isaiah 40:1-5)



WEEK 2:

AN ANGEL VISIT FOR MARY & JOSEPH

(Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:18-25)



WEEK 3:

PREPARING FOR JESUS - ELIZABETH'S STORY

(Luke 1:57-80, John 1:6-9, John 1:15, Mark 1:1-8)



WEEK 4:

JESUS' BIRTH

(Luke 2:1-20)



WEEK 1: AN ANCIENT PROPHECY



Open with Prayer:

Ask the Lord for wisdom and focus as you begin today's devotional.

Worship:

Can you find a song that uses any of the names for Jesus used in verse 6 (Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace)? Use this song to worship the Lord before you begin.

Family Bible Reading Passages For Today:

ISAIAH 9:1-7 & ISAIAH 40:1-5



The first week of this devotional begins with Isaiah's prophecy of the coming birth of Christ. The dark days for Israel had begun as Zebulun and Naphtali were the first to suffer as God allowed them to be overrun by the Assyrian invasion. They had hope in the coming of the Messiah and the Light He would bring to them. We see an anticipation for Jesus' arrival on earth as Isaiah's prophecies bring encouragement and comfort.

Reading through this passage in Isaiah points us forward to the hope for people by the birth of a child. "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given," sent as a Saviour for the world. Isaiah is the beginning of the hope found in the birth of Jesus and is the very start of our Christmas story, giving us a glimpse into what is to come! This passage is a centerpiece to all of the Christmas prophecies and is important to us because Isaiah prophesied the Messiah's



Around 700 years before Jesus was even born, God shared with Isaiah about the coming of Jesus to tell to the Israelites.



Isaiah is quoted in the New Testament over 65 times! This is way more than any other Old Testament prophet.

birth. It was all fulfilled by Jesus, showing us later the Messiah had been born!

Discuss:

1. In Isaiah 9:2 it says they had seen a great light. What was the light they were talking about? (Hint: Check 2 Corinthians 4:4 to help you!)
2. Look at Isaiah 9:2. What contrasts do you see?
3. Write down the names of God listed in verse 6. What do they mean?
4. How do you see Jesus as light - or any of the names - listed in your life?
5. In Isaiah 40:1-5 it talks of God being a comfort and preparing the way for Jesus. How could God's people find comfort in this passage of the prophet Isaiah? Have you ever found comfort in God or need to find comfort in God this week? Share with your family.

Prayer:

Use the prayer prompts below to say a prayer to close your time.

- Use words of praise to worship God for who He is.
- Thank God for His prophecies coming to pass & His faithfulness.
- Praise God as He hears and cares for His people.
- Who do you know that is still walking in 'darkness' that needs Jesus' light that you can pray for today?












ACTIVITY PAGE

Jesus would be a great light for the people walking in darkness. Isaiah shared this with people to give them hope!

Be a Bible detective and fill out during or after you read today's passage!

*Please note we use the ESV Bible

ISAIAH 9:6

For to us a child is , to us
 a  is given; and the government
 shall be upon his , and his name
 shall be  Wonderful Counsellor,
 God,  Father,
 Prince of  .

ANSWER KEY: born, son, shoulder, called, mighty, everlasting, peace

Write the words as you listen to the passage for each picture to create a key to tell the story.



Colour in the bubble letters of names of Jesus below!

WONDERFUL
 COUNSELLOR
 MIGHTY GOD
 EVERLASTING
 FATHER
 PRINCE OF
 PEACE



CREATE



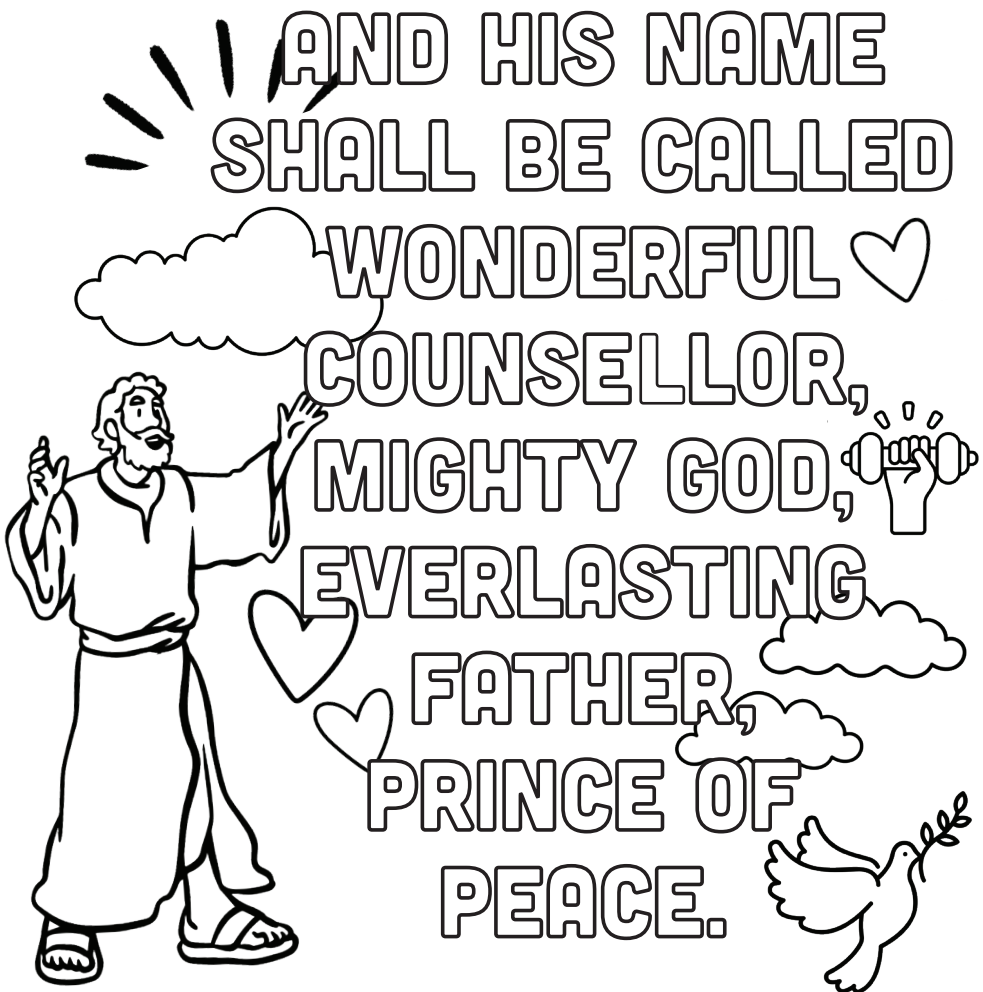
Create a star with all the names of Jesus listed in Isaiah 9:6.





WEEKLY CHALLENGE: MEMORIZE ISAIAH 9:6-7

⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end. on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.



WEEK 2: AN ANGEL VISIT FOR MARY & JOSEPH



Open with Prayer:

Ask the Lord for wisdom and focus as you begin today's study.



This is one of only a few angelic visitations in the New Testament. Most angel visits were associated with Jesus' birth (Matthew 1:20).

Worship:

Can you find a worship song that has the name 'Mary,' 'Joseph,' or 'Immanuel' in it?

Family Bible Reading Passages For Today:

MATTHEW 1:18-25 (Joseph's Story) LUKE 1:26-38 (Mary's Story)



Our second week zooms into the lives of both Mary and Joseph as they find out they are going to be the mother and father of baby Jesus. We see the beginning of the prophecy starting to be fulfilled in these pages as Mary's pregnancy through the Holy Spirit is a surprise to them both! A miracle is taking place and we see the Lord at work continuing to reveal His plan to us, Mary, and Joseph. Could this be from the prophecy from so long ago? Mary and Joseph get a front row seat to the Holy Spirit making a way for God to come to the world through the human form of Jesus - as a baby! Read both stories this week so you can get perspective of each Joseph and Mary's experiences as the Lord shares the exciting news with them through the angel visits! This passage is important to us because it shows us how God divinely orchestrated the birth of Jesus through the Holy Spirit because of His love for us.

Discuss:

1. How did Mary become pregnant? (Matthew 1:18/Luke 1:35)
2. Who appeared to Joseph? Why? (Matthew 1:19-20)
3. In both Mary and Joseph's stories, we see the name of the child given and the reason for this specific name. What was the name and the reasonings? (Matthew 1:21 & Luke 1:32)
4. Read Isaiah 7:14. Can you find this Scripture in the Matthew passage? Why do you think Isaiah 7:14 is included here?
5. How do you think you might have felt if an angel appeared to you and gave you special instructions?
6. How did Mary respond when the angel gave her special instructions? (Luke 1:38)

Prayer:

Use the prayer prompts below to say a prayer to close your time.

- Use your words of praise to worship God for who He is.
- Thank God for His power and His Word always holding true.
- Ask for God to help you have a servant's heart toward Him as Mary & Joseph did.
- Praise the Holy Spirit for actively being at work in believer's daily lives.

Jesus is the Son of God, not Son of Joseph "Jesus" (see verse 25; Luke 1:31) actually means "Saviour".









ACTIVITY PAGE




Be a Bible detective and fill out during or after you read today's passage!

*Please note we use the ESV Bible


LUKE 1:30-33

And the  said to her, "Do not be , Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a

, and you shall call his name .

And the Lord God will give to him the  of his father David, and he will  over the house of Jacob forever, and of his  there will be no end."

angel, afraid, son, Jesus, throne, reign, kingdom

ANSWER KEY 

Write the words as you listen to the passage for each picture to create a key to tell the story.



What does 'Immanuel' mean? (God is with us)

Unscramble the words. Use the Scripture passage to help you spell the words correctly!

Behold, they will call him _____.

umnemlai

The angel _____ was sent to see Mary.

irabgle


Mary was in _____. **zanatreh**

_____ would also conceive a son.

ilhaetbez

Mary said, "Behold, I am the _____ of the Lord." **rnatves**

Immanuel, Gabriel, Nazareth, Elizabeth, servant

ANSWER KEY 

CREATE

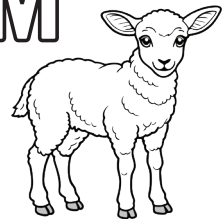
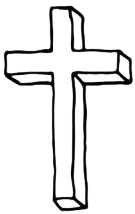
Create an angel using things you have around your house. Put the angel somewhere that will remind you of the promise of baby Jesus!





WEEKLY CHALLENGE:
MEMORIZE LUKE 1:30–33 OR MATTHEW 1:20–21

²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:20-21



"John" means the grace of Jehovah.

Zechariah, through the Holy Spirit, then gave a prophecy from God!

WEEK 3: PREPARING FOR JESUS – ELIZABETH'S STORY



Open with Prayer:

Ask the Lord for wisdom and focus as you begin today's study.

Worship:

Can you find a worship song that reminds you of God's miracles? Use this song to worship the Lord before you begin.

Family Bible Reading Passages For Today:



LUKE 1:57-80 (you can check out these other Bible passages about John the Baptist. - JOHN 1:6-9, JOHN 1:15, MARK 1:1-8)

Last week we read that the angel told Mary she would become pregnant and so would her cousin Elizabeth. Another baby born fulfilling prophecy yet again, clearly has a special calling. Giving the baby boy a new name - John - we see how the Lord will use him in preparation for the coming of Jesus. John played a big role in preparing the hearts of God's people for Jesus. He reminded them of who was to come and got them ready by being a messenger for God. He cleared the way for Jesus to come fulfill the longing of the promised Saviour and stirred excitement and hope for God's people.

This week we will glance into the story of Elizabeth and the birth and plan for John the Baptist to see how it ties into God's plan and the birth of Jesus. This passage is important



Zechariah lost his voice when he saw a vision of the temple. He got it back when he wrote down that the baby's name was 'John'!

Elizabeth was older so no one thought she could have a baby. It was a miracle!



because it shows another miracle birth, of John, who would later prepare the way for Jesus telling others about the Messiah to come. John's birth fulfilled the prophecy about the Messiah bringing hope to all.

Discuss:

1. What was Elizabeth's baby to be named?
2. What did Elizabeth call the baby instead?
3. Why were her relatives confused by the name Elizabeth wanted to use?
4. What happened after 'John' was written on the writing tablet that made the neighbours fear and realize the baby was part of God's plan?
5. Zechariah gave a prophecy at the end of our reading today. What was God's plan for the baby?

Prayer:

Use the prayer prompts below to say a prayer to close your time.

- Use your words of praise to worship God for who He is.
- Praise the Lord for His miracles.
- Bring any hard situations you need to trust the Lord more in to His feet in prayer.
- Thank God for caring about the details just like how He prepared the way for Jesus through John the Baptist.












ACTIVITY PAGE

Be a Bible detective and fill out during or after you read today's passage!

*Please note we use the ESV Bible

LUKE 1:57-60

Now the  came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a . And her neighbours and relatives  that the  had shown great mercy to her, and they  with her. And they would have  him Zechariah after his father, but his mother answered, "No; he shall be called  ."

ANSWER KEY: time, son, heard, Lord, rejoiced, called, John

Write the words as you listen to the passage for each picture to create a key to tell the story.



CREATE

Read Luke 1:57-80. Create a tablet that says 'John' using whatever materials you have at home. Use lego, playdoh, paper, cardboard, get creative!



Names are always important in the Bible and often have meaning. Ask your parents how they picked your name and what your name means! If you don't know, you can search online to find your name's meaning.



COMPLETE THE MAZE to John preparing the way for Jesus as God fulfills the prophecy!

The name John means:

(*grace of Jehovah*)





WEEKLY CHALLENGE:
MEMORIZE LUKE 1:76-77

⁷⁷ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, ⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins...

AND YOU, CHILD,
WILL BE CALLED
THE PROPHET OF
THE MOST HIGH;
FOR YOU WILL GO
BEFORE THE LORD
TO PREPARE HIS
WAYS



WEEK 4:

JESUS' BIRTH



Open with Prayer:

Ask the Lord for wisdom and focus as you begin today's study.

Worship:

This week as we reflect on the birth of our Saviour, worship as a family by picking your favourite songs surrounding Jesus' birth.

Family Bible Reading

Passages For Today: LUKE 2:1-20



The weeks of anticipation leading up to Jesus' birth are finally here! Read through the passage slowly and several times this week as we marvel at the humility of the Lord coming to earth: not as a high priest or king, but as a humble baby. How wonderful and sweet this time of year is as we see the promise of hope delivered the day Jesus Christ came into the world as a baby. The mystery is revealed in these coming pages and we see Christ being exalted by the angels and heavenly choirs. Rejoice! The announcement of the good news, a hope for all people, is wrapped up in this passage! This passage is important to us because Isaiah's Christmas prophecy has now come to pass and we see that God is faithful and in control. He has sent His Son into the world to bring us light, love, hope, and joy in the midst of darkness - our Saviour is finally here!

Why were there no rooms in the inns? A lot of people were returning to Bethlehem to register for the census, so this could be the reason.



Discuss:

1. Why were Mary and Joseph travelling to Bethlehem?
2. How did the shepherds react when the angel appeared to them?
3. What was the message the angels gave to the shepherds? Why do you think they praised God?
4. After the shepherds had seen Jesus, what did they do?
5. Why do you think people were excited about the birth of baby Jesus?

Prayer:

Use the prayer prompts below to say a prayer to close your time.

- Use your words of praise to worship God for who He is.
- God made a plan from the beginning to rescue us from our sins. Rejoice and praise God for sending Jesus as a baby and Jesus as our Saviour!
- How do you see the trinity in this story of Jesus' birth? Thank God and praise God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit for each of their roles in Jesus' birth.

A manger is a feeding box for animals!














ACTIVITY PAGE

Be a **Bible detective** and fill out during or after you read today's passage!

*Please note we use the ESV Bible

LUKE 2:6-7

And while they were there, the  came for her to give . And she gave  to her firstborn  and wrapped him in swaddling  and laid him in a  because there was  place for them in the .

ANSWER KEY:  Time, birth, birth, son, cloths, manger, no, inn

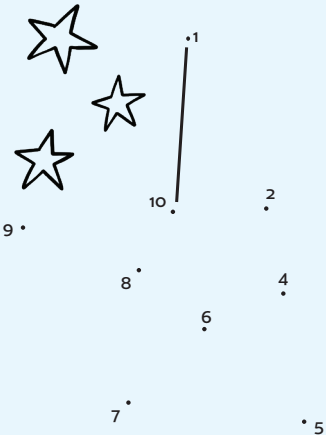
Write the words as you listen to the passage for each picture to create a key to tell the story.



CREATE

Pick a scene from the story of Jesus' birth and create it at home. You could choose to do the nativity scene, baby Jesus in the manger or the angels telling the shepherds to go see baby Jesus. Draw, build, sculpt, or use recyclable materials to create and display in your house!

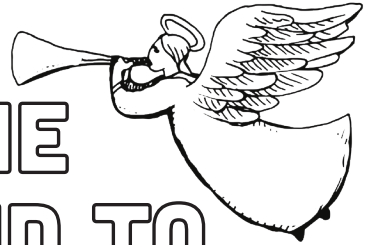
Draw a picture of the nativity scene when Jesus was born!





WEEKLY CHALLENGE:
MEMORIZE LUKE 2:10-11

¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."



AND THE
ANGEL SAID TO
THEM, "FEAR NOT,
FOR BEHOLD, I
BRING YOU GOOD
NEWS OF GREAT
JOY THAT
WILL BE FOR
ALL THE
PEOPLE."





We hope you enjoyed journeying through the excitement, prophecies, and birth of Jesus Christ this season. If this devotional journey has made you think deeper, and you are feeling a pull on your heart to follow Jesus, be encouraged that Jesus is calling you to follow Him too! God's Word tells us that if we admit our sins to Jesus and ask Him for forgiveness, He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Tell Him you believe that He died and rose for you so that you can be saved (Romans 10:9) and that you want to commit your life to Him and live for Him (Galatians 2:20). This is why Jesus was born - to make a way for all of us who were far off to be brought near to Him by the blood of the cross and experience redemption! (Ephesians 2:13).

We are so happy you chose to spend this Christmas deeply reflecting on Jesus!

YOU ARE LOVED





