



Family Advent Guide

designed to help you point your family toward the Savior throughout this holiday season.

Week 1: hope

“Look, the days are coming”—this is the Lord’s declaration—“when I will fulfill the good promise that I have spoken concerning the house of Israel and the house of Judah.”

Jeremiah 33:14

HOPE IN GOD’S PROMISE

Hope is believing and longing for something while trusting that God will keep His promise. The people of Israel had waited and hoped for hundreds of years. But God’s plan began long before Israel even knew to hope for it. Before the world began, God had a plan for our redemption. He knew we would need a Savior. When Adam and Eve sinned, God spoke the first recorded promise about Jesus. God made another promise about Jesus to Abraham, then another to David. Throughout the Old Testament, God promised His people that He would send a Messiah—their Savior. God’s timing is perfect and God always keeps His promises. But it is hard for humans to wait. Israel waited and waited with hope for the day that God’s promises of a Messiah would come true. It had been 400 years since God had last spoken to the people. They waited and hoped.

Week 2: love

God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. —John 3:16

MORE THAN A WORD

Love is a frequently used word. Kids and adults alike use it to describe how much they enjoy or prefer something: I love baseball. I love ice cream. I love being with my friends. But love is more than just liking something. First Corinthians 13 describes love as selfless and never-ending. John 3:16 tells us that God loved us SO MUCH that He sent Baby Jesus to be born in a manger, knowing that one day He would die for each one of us. This kind of love is more powerful than liking a sport or a food: you may like those things today and change your mind in a few years. God loves us every day, now and forever.