

# O Come Let Us ADORE HIM

This guide is meant to give you inspiration and ideas to help your family prepare for Christmas. May these activities and experiences bless your family as you share simple moments of faith and meaning together.

Carols and hymns were written to share and teach the gospel. There are many Christmas favorites! We used lines from a few to theme this family reflection guide.

Make sure to tag us @faithandfamilycollective in your photos and videos. We would love to encourage each other as we journey through Advent!

## ALL IS CALM, ALL IS BRIGHT:

Simple activities to teach Jesus as Light of the World

## PREPARE HIM ROOM:

Make room in your hearts for others this month

## LET HEAVEN AND NATURE SING:

A new caroling tradition to begin

## SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT:

Discover the Holy Family on such a sacred night

## JOY TO THE WORLD:

Celebrate the birth of Jesus!

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# ALL IS CALM ALL IS BRIGHT

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We await the Light of the World. Throughout Advent, we use the image of light. We light candles to remind us that Jesus brings His light to our sometimes darkened world. He brings hope, love, joy, and peace  
- to help light our path!



A lightbulb brightens a darkened room, but only if it is plugged into an energy source. Take a real light bulb from a lamp in your home and have each family member write their name with a sharpie on it. Then, take a moment to talk to your children about how Jesus brings His light to our world at Christmas. Jesus wants us to continue His work. When we are “plugged” into Him (now screw your lightbulb into its socket), we can share His light and love with others.

+How do we stay “plugged in” to Jesus?

+What are some ways we can shine brightly and continue Jesus’ work on Earth?



It was a star that led others to Jesus. Shepherds and kings followed a bright star that lit up the sky. Parents, hide a star ornament each day (or once every few days), before Christmas. Have your children search for the star. On Christmas morning, put the star on the top of your Christmas tree or nativity scene.

+Who are the people who lead you to Jesus?

+What are some things they do to help point you to the manger?

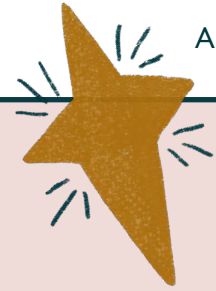
+How can you help others find Jesus?





# PREPARE HIM ROOM

As we await Baby Jesus, let's pray for all those who need our love, hope, and encouragement.  
25 days to make room in our hearts and to bless and hold others in our prayers.



## DECEMBER PRAY FOR...

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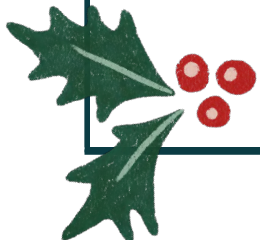
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		1 the hungry	2 the unemployed	3 your friends	4 teachers	5 the homeless
6 those experiencing the loss of a loved one	7 caretakers	8 those in the military	9 religious leaders	10 your neighbors	11 farmers and farmworkers	12 government leaders
13 those with special needs	14 those in prison	15 missionaries	16 refugees	17 the sick	18 first responders	19 those who have hurt you
20 parents	21 students	22 doctors and nurses	23 the elderly	24 the lonely	25 your family	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Check out our Faith + Family Collective Compassion Card Set or Prayer Plate Gathering Box for prayer prompts and conversation starters that coincide with the calendar above!

# LET HEAVEN AND NATURE SING

Begin a new family tradition! Sit together as a family and decide 4-5 people or families who have been the face of Christ for you this past year. Create the simple manger craft below and fill out the card on the next page. Next, pack up the car, fill a thermos with hot chocolate, and head out to bless your family and friends. Encourage your children to ring the doorbell and start singing or humming Christmas carols. After you finish singing, read the card aloud to the person or family and present them with the Baby Jesus. Jump back in your car and do it over and over again!

*Note: This is meant to be an unexpected blessing for someone. Try not to go inside and have them entertain you or it may become an unexpected obligation.*

## MANGER CRAFT:

Find a few wood beads or peg dolls at your local craft store. Cut out a small square of felt and swaddle the peg doll or wooden bead (Jesus' head). Lay or glue Jesus in a bed of raffia. Wrap in cellophane and tie with a bow!

### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- +Wood bead or wood peg doll
- +Felt
- +Raffia



## HOT CHOCOLATE RECIPE:

- 1 ½ cups sugar
- 1 ¼ cups cocoa powder
- ½ - 1 ¼ teaspoon salt, to taste
- ¾ cup hot water
- 1 gallon of milk
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ¼ tsp cinnamon



In a large saucepan, combine sugar, cocoa, and salt. Slowly add in hot water, mixing well. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly until mixture boils. Boil and stir for 2 minutes. Add milk, stirring occasionally. Do not boil. Remove from heat and whisk in vanilla and cinnamon.

DEAR

\_\_\_\_\_ ,

As we prepare to receive Jesus  
this Christmas, we are reminded  
of the ways you have blessed  
us this past year by

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

You have been the face and  
hands of Jesus for our family.

Merry  
Christmas!

LOVE, \_\_\_\_\_

# SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT

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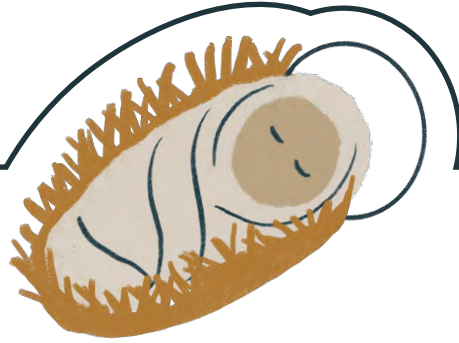


God intentionally brought Jesus into our world as part of a family. He was born in a simple town to everyday people. His birth took place in a stable surrounded by animals. Each Christmas, Jesus wants to be born anew into our everyday family, in our simple home, in the midst of our messy lives. Oftentimes, nativity sets are pristine and untouchable, but our God wanted His feet to touch our earth and to know our real human experience. Create a simple nativity set together on Christmas Eve and talk about what that must have been like for this young couple to usher in new life.

To keep this activity simple, only use items you have in your home. For example, use a shoe box or legos for a stable. Glue cereal on the rooftop to make it look like shingles. Make sheep out of cotton balls and a star out of sticks. Cut out the Holy Family and add them inside.

Where two or more are gathered Jesus promises He is there with us. He is born anew!









# JOY TO THE WORLD



Christmas morning is magical! The anticipation to open gifts and enjoy the love and thoughtfulness behind each one. Before opening the first present, make a statement by beginning the day with the joy of Jesus' birth - our greatest gift!

Begin a simple tradition of laying Baby Jesus on a pillow and processing Him from a different room all the way to the manger. Have all of your children line up behind the child holding Baby Jesus on the pillow. After Jesus is put into the manger, have everyone kneel in prayer for a few moments. Then, sing Happy Birthday together as a family. Enjoy the unwrapping mania knowing from where your joy comes!



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If you enjoyed this guide to Advent, check us out! Our mission at Faith + Family Collective is to provide resources to help families share faith in their homes in simple and meaningful ways.



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