

# ADVENT Worship Guide 2019

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## 1 Peter 1:8-13

*Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look. Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

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## WHAT IS ADVENT?

The time has once again come to celebrate Advent, a season of joyful expectation. “Advent” comes from the Latin word meaning “coming” or “arrival.” During this time, we who follow Christ gather together to celebrate His humble birth, both as a church family and with our individual families. Jesus did not only come as a child; He is coming again as King, so we rejoice in looking back on God’s faithfulness throughout history while also waiting in eager anticipation for his promised return. May this Advent season be full of great hope and celebration for you and your family.

## HOW TO PREPARE

Use this guide during your personal or family devotion three times each week between December 1st and December 24th. We also encourage you to join in the traditional practice of lighting a candle for each week of Advent.

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Choose three times each week that you and/or your family can sit down together for 10-15 minutes to read, talk, pray, and sing. The first three weeks contain three devotionals that correspond with a particular week of Advent. The fourth week will only have two devotionals.

The third devotion each week coincides with the five candles often used during the traditional practice of an advent wreath. Traditionally, the candles are lit on Sundays, but you and your family may choose to use this guide without a wreath and candles, or to light them on a day other than Sunday. There is also a song each week from the [MyHouse Worship series](#) that goes along with the content for the week. And you can use our [Advent Playlist](#).

The final devotion is designed to be completed on Christmas Eve, serving as a culmination of all the advent devotions. When the final candle is lit, this signifies that Christ the Lamb has come!

Our reason for celebration is not in material possessions or even in each other, but in Christ Jesus who came to sacrifice himself in our place.

May God richly bless your family during this season as you look to him.

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DECEMBER 15, 2019 WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE  
ADVENT WEEK 3 :: JOY  
SONG FOR THE WEEK: [JOY TO THE WORLD](#)



## GO INTO THE WORLD

### GET STARTED:

**ACTIVITY [Younger Kids]:** Play 'Find the Jingle Bell.' Choose a Christmas themed object and take turns hiding it in the room that you are gathering in. Then give your kids the chance to try to find it. Obviously, the younger the kids, the more reasonable the 'hiding' place.

**QUESTIONS [Older Kids & Students]:** What is your favorite thing to do? What would you do if someone came to you while you were doing your favorite thing and told you to stop what you are doing and go to a place you've never been to see someone you don't even know? Would it be hard for you to drop everything? What if that message came from some stranger you've never seen?

**READ:** Luke 2:8-16

**TALK:** The shepherds were caught off guard as they watched their sheep in the dark of night and an angel appeared to them to share this good news. You can only imagine how surprised they were, yet immediately after hearing about the news of Christ's birth and where they would find him, they left their most valuable possession and began the journey to the manger.

**PRAY:** Thank God for showing us what it means to obey immediately. Ask God to help you go wherever He says to go, whenever He says to go there. Pray for your home to show and share the love of Jesus this Christmas season.

### GET STARTED:

**ACTIVITY [Younger Kids]:** Play a game of telephone. Whisper into the ear of the person on your right, so that only they can hear you. Say, "Jesus is good news." Then have that person whisper to the next person, until everyone has heard the message. Then ask the last person to say it out loud. Feel free to come up with other funny things for your kids to say too, they'll enjoy saying silly things to you or their siblings.

**QUESTIONS [Older Kids & Students]:** What is something that you have to do everyday? What is something that you want to be able to do everyday? Which one do you get more excited about? What are some reasons we don't like to do things that other people ask us to do?

**READ:** Romans 10:13-17

**TALK:** Paul reminds readers of the expectation that God has for his people to telling the world about the promised Messiah, Jesus Christ, who came to earth as a baby, lived a perfect life, died to take the punishment that we deserve, and rose again to prove that He is truly God. Who will you tell this good news of great joy to this Advent Season.

**PRAY:** Thank God for sending Jesus to save and giving us the chance to be a part of His mission in the world. Ask God to give you boldness to tell the world of the good news of Jesus Christ. Ask God to help you show the Joy of Jesus to your ONE

### GET STARTED:

Ask one member of your family to light the third candle of the advent wreath.

**READ:** Luke 1:46-49

**PRAY:** Thank God that he has given us hope in Jesus, a reason to sing and celebrate. Ask God to help you always be hopeful, even when life is difficult or God wants you to do something difficult. Ask God for God to help you be faithful to sharing Jesus with others this Christmas.

## JOY