

ADVENT Worship Guide 2019

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.

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.

DECEMBER 22, 2019 WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE
ADVENT WEEK 3 :: LOVE
SONG FOR THE WEEK: [O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL](#)



PEACE MAKER

DECEMBER 22

GET STARTED:

ACTIVITY [Younger Kids]: Get two towels and a chair. Lay out the two towels on the floor end to end and put the chair at the far end. Have the kids line up at the end opposite the chair. Tell them to go sit on the chair (one at a time) without stepping off the towels. Then line them back up and separate the towels (so far they can't jump across), and ask them to do the same thing. They won't be able to. Explain, after reading Ephesians 2:11-22, that God made a way to get us to God, by sending Jesus to die in our place. Carry them across the gap to the chair to demonstrate that it is only Jesus that gets us to God.

QUESTIONS [Older Kids & Students]: What is something that you and a friend or a sibling argue about? How do you feel about that person when you are in an argument with them? How do you feel when that argument has been resolved/fixed? What are some reasons we feel upset, angry, mad when there is a divide between us and another person?

READ: Ephesians 2:11-22

TALK: Because of sin, there is a divide between man and God. But God, in His grace, sent Jesus in order to fulfill the law and bring peace with God to His children. This peace with God that Jesus brings leads to peace among His people. As you consider peace this Advent season, be reminded of the Prince of Peace, Jesus.

PRAY: Thank God for bringing peace with Him through Jesus. Ask God to help you demonstrate that peace with others.

DECEMBER 23

GET STARTED:

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

READ: John 1:1-18

PRAY: Thank God that, in love, He sent Jesus to live among and die for us. Ask God to help you celebrate His love shown in Jesus this Advent season.

DECEMBER 24 | Christmas Eve

GET STARTED:

Ask one member of your family to light the fifth and final candle of the advent wreath.

READ: John 1:29

PRAY: Thank God that He sent Jesus as a baby to live perfectly and die in our place. Ask God to help you to celebrate Christ together this Christmas.

SING: [Silent Night](#)

LOVE

CHRIST