

HomeFront

a spiritual parenting resource

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

HOLIDAY
TRADITIONS
pg. 16

FAMILY TIME
RECIPES
pg. 17

EXTRA
RESOURCES
pg. 26



HOLIDAY
Edition

HOMEFRONTMAG.COM

A Note From Michelle



The holidays have a way of filling our homes with traditions. We pull out familiar recipes, decorate the same tree, gather around tables, tell old stories, and return to the moments that have become part of our family's story.

But what if our traditions could do more than create memories? What if they could help our children **remember God**?

Throughout Scripture, God's people are repeatedly called to remember. . . to remember His faithfulness, His promises, His provision, and His presence. And perhaps that is one of the greatest gifts we can give our children during this season: **traditions that continually turn their hearts toward the One who has been faithful through every generation.**

That is what this holiday issue of HomeFront is all about. Inside, you'll find simple ways to weave faith into Thanksgiving and Christmas through recipes, conversations, activities, blessings, Advent experiences, and traditions your family may return to for years to come.

My prayer is that these pages help you create more than a memorable holiday that focuses on the birth of Jesus. May they help you build a family legacy that remembers God's faithfulness, celebrates His goodness, and keeps Jesus at the center of it all.

May your home be filled with His presence and may the **Light of the World** shine brightly through your family this Christmas.

With blessing,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Anthony".

Editor, HomeFront Magazine

Dr. Michelle Anthony is the Sr. Executive Pastor of Family Ministries at New Life Church in Colorado Springs, CO and Director of The Initiative for Faith and Family. Michelle has graduate degrees in Christian education, theology, and leadership and more than 30 years of church ministry experience as a children's and family pastor. She is also the author of Spiritual Parenting, The Big God Story, Becoming a Spiritually Healthy Family, and 7 Family Ministry Essentials. Michelle loves spending time with her husband, adult children, and her adorable grandchildren who make faith come alive each day!

SPIRITUAL PARENTING

It is our prayer that homes and churches would create environments for children to live in so their faith will grow in a community of common language and practice. To learn more about creating environments that can ignite a transforming faith in your family, we suggest you read:

SPIRITUAL PARENTING:
An Awakening for Today's Families

BY MICHELLE ANTHONY

© 2010 DAVID C COOK



page
9

DISCIPLESHIP STEPS AT NEW LIFE CHURCH

Parents are the spiritual nurturers of their children's faith and are the main disciplers in their lives. We are committed to engaging, empowering, and resourcing our parents and families to succeed in their God-given role. Time and resources make this role challenging in our busy world. At New Life Church, we have created a clear path of discipleship for our parents with convenient times and locations. We hope to see you there!

PARENT ORIENTATION A first step toward engaging in our ministry. Hear philosophy, meet staff, and learn how to be involved.

SPIRITUAL PARENTING A six-week class that dives deep into what God's Word says about parenting.

HOMEFRONT MAGAZINE A magazine designed to aid in successful community groups or family nights for your own family.

FAMILY NIGHTS/COMMUNITY GROUPS Families meeting in homes to do life together (as individual families or combined with other families) and grow in their relationships with God and each other.

PARENT DISCIPLESHIP RESOURCES/EVENTS Throughout the year, we offer special courses and events tailored toward inspiring, equipping, and supporting you as you nurture your children's faith.



HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

We believe parents and grandparents are the primary nurturers of their children's and grandchildren's faith, and we want to inspire, equip, and support you in that endeavor. Individual Family Nights or Community Groups (which participate in Family Nights together with other families) are an opportunity for you to gather with several other families who are in similar life circumstances and grow together. Your Community Group will gather for eight weeks each semester (Fall, Spring, and Summer). This is a time for you to share a meal, learn more about God, engage with each other, and bless your children. *HomeFront* is the curriculum for our Community Groups, and each volume contains a full semester's worth of gatherings.

You can still access previous editions of *HomeFront* magazine at homefrontmag.com. If you would like more information about Community Groups, or would like to sign up for a group near you, email parents@newlifechurch.org. Thank you for investing in the spiritual health of your family. We hope this magazine will serve as a practical guide for you as you seek to establish a spiritually-rich environment in your home.



10

ENVIRONMENTS

The order of the 10 Environments listed coincides with the monthly distribution of this resource.

1

STORYTELLING

"God has a big story, and I can be a part of it!"

The power of The Big God Story impacts our lives by giving us an accurate and awe-inspiring perspective into how God has been moving throughout history. It is the story of redemption, salvation, and hope, and tells how we have been grafted into it by grace. It further compels us to see how God is using every person's life and is creating a unique story that deserves to be told for God's glory.



2

IDENTITY

"I belong to God, and He loves me!"

This environment highlights who we are in Christ. According to Ephesians 1, we have been chosen, adopted, redeemed, sealed, and given an inheritance in Christ, all of which we did nothing to earn. This conviction allows children to stand firm against the destructive counter-identities the world will offer.

5

OUT OF THE COMFORT ZONE

"God transforms me when I step out in faith."

As children and students are challenged to step out of their comfort zone from an early age, they learn to experience a dependence on the Holy Spirit to equip and strengthen them beyond their natural abilities and desires. We believe this environment will cultivate a generation that, instead of seeking comfort, seeks a radical life of faith in Christ.

8

LOVE AND RESPECT

"God fills me with His love so I can give it away."

Without love, our faith becomes futile. This environment recognizes that children need an environment of love and respect in order to be free to both receive and give God's grace. Innate to this environment is the value that children are respected because they embody the image of God. We must speak to them, not at them, and we must commit to an environment where love and acceptance are never withheld due to one's behavior.

3

FAITH COMMUNITY

"God's family cares for each other and worships God together."

God designed us to live in community and to experience Him in ways that can only happen in proximity to one another. The faith community serves to create an environment to equip and disciple parents, to celebrate God's faithfulness, and to bring a richness of worship through tradition and rituals, which offer children an identity. Our love for each other reflects the love we have received from God.

6

RESPONSIBILITY

"God has entrusted me with the things and people He created around me."

This environment captures the ability to take ownership for one's life, gifts, and resources before God. A child must be challenged to take responsibility for his or her brothers and sisters in Christ, as well as for those who are spiritually lost. Our hope is that the Holy Spirit will use this environment to allow each child to understand that God has entrusted His world to us.

9

KNOWING

"God knows me, and I can know Him."

Nothing could be more important than knowing and being known by God. We live in a world that denies absolute truth, and yet God's Word offers just that. As we create an environment that upholds and displays God's truth, we give children a foundation based on knowing God, knowing His Word, and a relationship with Him through Christ. God is holy, mighty, and awesome, and yet He has chosen to make Himself known to us!

4

SERVING

"Asks the question, 'What needs to be done?'"

This posture of the heart asks the question, "What needs to be done?" It allows the Holy Spirit to cultivate a sensitivity to others and focuses on a cause bigger than one individual life. It helps fulfill the mandate that as Christ-followers, we are to view our lives as living sacrifices that we generously give away!

7

COURSE CORRECTION

"When I get off track, God offers me a path of healing."

This environment flows out of Hebrews 12:11-13 and is the direct opposite of punishment. Instead, biblical discipline for a child encompasses a season of pain, the building up in love, and a vision of a corrected path for the individual with the purpose of healing at its core.

10

MODELING

"I see Christ in others, and they can see Him in me."

Biblical content needs a practical living expression in order for it to be spiritually impacting. This environment serves as a hands-on example of what it means for children to put their faith into action. Modeling puts flesh on faith and reminds us that others are watching to see if we live what we believe.

HomeFront

CONTENTS

HELPING YOU HAVE A
SUCCESSFUL FAMILY NIGHT/
COMMUNITY GROUP

Lessons



6

LESSON ONE

- Faithful
- God's Faithfulness Quilt and Blessing Bookmarks
- His Enduring Timeline
- Blessing

8

LESSON TWO

- Good
- Faith-Talk Dice
- Family Story Frame
- Blessing

10

LESSON THREE

- Real Love
- Kindness Kookies
- Secret Family Blessing Mission
- Blessing

12

LESSON FOUR

- Good
- Gratitude Garland
- Thanksgiving Table Prayer Cards
- Blessing

14

LESSON FIVE

- Storytime
- Flannelgraph
- Do You Know What I Know?
- Blessing

16

SPECIAL

- Family Time Recipes
- Traditions

18

LESSON SIX

- Promise Keeper
- The Waiting Game
- The Promise is Coming
- Blessing

20

LESSON SEVEN

- Worthy
- Advent Praise
- In Between Sundays
- Blessing

22

LESSON EIGHT

- Lamb of God
- Memory Ornaments
- Hear It!
- Blessing

26

RESOURCES

- Flannelgraph Images
- Names of Jesus

Some activities need to be made ahead of time. Look for this bar on pg. 13 to help you prepare.

OUR MISSION

INSPIRE

parents with ideas to create fun, spiritually forming times in the normal rhythm of everyday life.

EQUIP

parents to become the spiritual leaders of God's truth in their own households.

SUPPORT

families to engage their communities and change the culture around them.

DID YOU KNOW?

Each lesson helps you lead your family through four sections.

GOD'S WORD:

Spending time together in God's Word is a powerful way for your kids to learn who God is while instilling a love for the Bible from an early age. Take some time to read the God's Word section together and then answer the questions in the discussion section.

CREATE or GAME TIME:

Sometimes the best conversations happen around creating or playing together. Don't forget to make this time engaging and purposeful.

WORSHIP RESPONSE:

Worship Response is a time to respond in a posture and attitude of worship toward God. There are many ways we can actively give our worship to God.

BLESS:

A blessing can be a prayer of commission, a Bible passage, or words of encouragement. Blessings can be spoken over a child for the purpose of declaring God's protection, joy, and wisdom over him.

LESSON ONE



GOD'S WORD

GOD STATEMENT: God is Faithful

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 8:2-18



Read: Deuteronomy 8:2-18 together as a family.

Have you ever forgotten something important? Maybe it was a birthday, an appointment, or where you left your keys. **Forgetting can happen so easily, which is why God often reminded His people not to forget Him.**

In Deuteronomy 8, the Israelites were about to enter the Promised Land after years of wandering in the wilderness. Soon they would have homes, food, and everything they needed. God knew that once life became comfortable, they might begin to believe they had achieved it all on their own. So, He lovingly warned them, "Remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth."

Remembering God's faithfulness keeps our hearts humble. When we pause to think about how God has

provided, guided, comforted, and answered prayers, we are reminded that every good gift comes from Him. Even during seasons when life feels uncertain, we can look back and see that God has never stopped caring for His children.

As a family, remembering God's faithfulness can become a meaningful habit. Share stories of prayers He has answered, difficult seasons He has carried you through, or unexpected blessings He has provided. Those stories become part of your family's faith legacy.

DISCUSSION

1. Why do you think God warned His people not to forget Him after they entered the Promised Land?
2. What are some ways God has been faithful to our family this year?
3. How can remembering God's faithfulness help us trust Him with the future?

CREATE

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS *Quilt &* **BLESSING BOOKMARKS**

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Paper
- Scissors
- Markers or Crayons
- Tape
- Ribbon (optional)
- Laminator (optional)

WHAT YOU'LL DO PART ONE: GOD'S FAITHFULNESS QUILT

1. Fold regular printer paper from corner to corner to form a square and cut off the remaining paper. Save the remaining strip for the Blessing Bookmarks.



2. Each family member then writes or draws one way God has been faithful inside their square.
3. Now, they decorate their paper square.
4. Tape all the squares together into one large "quilt."
5. Discuss how each story is unique, and together they tell the story of God's care for your family. Hang on a wall during the month of November.

WHAT YOU'LL DO PART TWO: BLESSING BOOKMARKS

1. Everyone decorates a "bookmark" from the scrap of paper cut off to form "quilt" squares.
2. On one side write: "Remember the Lord your God..."- Deuteronomy 8:18
3. On the other side, write five ways God has been faithful to each person or your family this year.
4. Laminate and add ribbon at the top, if desired, and put in your Bible/s.
5. Every time someone reads their Bible, they'll remember God's faithfulness.

His Enduring *Timeline*

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- 11x17 paper or cardstock
- Markers
- Stickers or washi tape
- Family photos (optional)

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. Draw a winding path across the page. Along the path, family members add important moments from their lives like the example on this page
2. Beside each event, write a sentence of God's faithfulness.
3. At the bottom write: "Remember the Lord your God..." - Deuteronomy 8:18
4. Display in a frequently seen place, like the pantry or mudroom.
5. This will become a beautiful family testimony scrapbook to be enjoyed for years/generations to come.



Birthday

God gave me life.



Baptism

God saved my life.



Graduation

God sustained me.

Blessing

Deuteronomy 7:9: **"(Child's name), may you never forget how faithful God has been to you.** May you remember the prayers He has answered, the ways He has cared for you, and the people He has used to show you His love. When you face something new or uncertain, may the stories of God's faithfulness give you courage. Amen."

Remember the Lord your God...

- Deuteronomy 8:18

LESSON TWO

GOD STATEMENT: God is Good

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

GOD'S WORD



Read: Deuteronomy 6:4-9 together as a family.

Some of the most meaningful conversations happen during ordinary moments. They take place while driving to school, folding laundry, eating dinner, or getting ready for bed. **God designed families to discover Him in everyday life, not just at church.**

In Deuteronomy 6, God instructed His people to love Him with all their heart, soul, and strength. Then He gave parents an important responsibility: "Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." God's plan for passing on faith wasn't limited to special events or formal lessons. He envisioned homes where conversations about Him happened naturally throughout the day.

Holiday traditions give families wonderful opportunities to do exactly that. Whether you're



preparing a favorite recipe, decorating the table, serving a neighbor, or sharing a meal together, each tradition can become a reminder of God's goodness and love.

When children grow up hearing stories of God's faithfulness and seeing His love woven into everyday life, they begin to understand that following Him is more than a Sunday activity. **The goal isn't to create perfect memories but to intentionally point one another to Jesus.**

DISCUSSION

1. Which family traditions help us remember God's love and faithfulness?
2. What everyday moments could our family utilize more to talk naturally about God in the daily details of our lives?
3. What new tradition could we begin that would help our family grow closer to Jesus?

GAME TIME

Faith-Talk DICE

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- A die from a board game
- A piece of paper
- Marker

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. On a piece of paper write a "Faith-Talk Phrase" that corresponds to one of the numbers on the die.
2. Take turns rolling the die during dinner. Let one or two people answer each question or prompt.
3. This game will help you discover that discipleship often happens through informal conversation rather than just in the formal lessons.

FAITH-TALK PHRASES

- Tell about a time God answered a prayer.
- What is one thing you love about Jesus?
- What Bible story gives you hope?
- Who can we pray for today?
- What are you thankful for?
- How did you see God this week?



Family *Story* Frame

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Markers/Crayons
- 8x10 frame (can even be cut from a cardboard box)
- One piece of paper

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. At the top of the paper, write: Our Family Has Seen God's Faithfulness
2. On the paper, family members draw one picture or one word from the past year where they clearly saw God at work.
3. Below the picture, complete these prompts:
 - We prayed...
 - God answered by...
 - We learned...
 - We will remember...
4. Date it and have each family member sign their name. Put your "family story" in the frame and place it in a prominent location in your home.



Blessing

Matthew 28:20: "(Child's name), may you see God's love and celebrate His joy in everyday moments. May you grow closer to Jesus every day. And may your life tell the story that Jesus is always with you, wherever you go. Amen."

LESSON THREE

GOD STATEMENT: God is Real Love
SCRIPTURE: Colossians 3:12-17

GOD'S WORD



Read: Colossians 3:12-17 together as a family.

A house becomes a home not because of the furniture inside it but because of the love that fills it. Every family has moments of laughter and celebration, but every family also experiences disagreements, disappointments, and days when patience wears thin. **That's why God's Word reminds us that the atmosphere of our homes matters.**

In Colossians 3, Paul encourages believers to "clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." These qualities don't always come naturally, but as we follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit helps us become more like Him. Paul goes on to say, "And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."

Love is more than saying kind words. It is choosing forgiveness when someone makes a mistake, offering grace when a family member has had a hard day, and encouraging one another to follow Christ. When Jesus is at the center of a home, peace begins to replace

frustration, gratitude replaces complaining, and forgiveness replaces resentment.

No family is perfect, but every family can grow. **As we allow God's Word to shape our attitudes and actions, our homes become places where people feel safe, valued, and loved.** The way we treat one another becomes a living picture of God's love. And this is one of the greatest gifts we can give to our family members, not just during the holidays, but every day of the year.

DISCUSSION

1. Which quality from Colossians 3 (compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, or love) do you think our family could practice more this week?
2. Why is forgiveness such an important part of a healthy family?
3. Name one way each of us can help make our home feel more loving and Christ-centered this week.

CREATE

Secret Family *Blessing* Mission

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Paper

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. Before the game, write simple "Blessing Missions" on slips of paper:
 - Give someone a genuine compliment.
 - Pray quietly for a family member.
 - Help without being asked.
 - Forgive quickly.
 - Share your favorite memory about someone.
2. Each person secretly draws a mission. The goal is to complete it without announcing it before the end of the day (or dinner).
3. Everyone guesses each other's mission before bedtime.
4. At bedtime read Colossians 3:12-17 again and talk about how love is shown through actions, not just words.

Kindness Kookies

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Cookies (either homemade or store bought)
 - Cellophane bags (or zipper locked/paper baggies)
 - Ribbon
 - Notecards or paper
 - Markers
 - Bible (for memory verses)
2. When finished, wrap the cookies in cellophane bags (or baggies).
 3. Tie ribbons on the “kindness kookies” and write notes of kindness to your neighbors.
 4. Don't forget to sign your names.
 5. Deliver the “kindness kookies” to your neighbors, leave on their doorstep, or place in their mailbox.

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. Make cookies together as a family and while they are cooking, look up these Bible verses and write them down on pieces of paper:
 - Ephesians 4:32
 - Micah 6:8
 - Colossians 3:12



Blessing

Galatians 5: **“(Child’s name), may God fill your heart with kindness, compassion, patience, and love. May your words bring encouragement, your hands bring help, and your actions show the love of Jesus to everyone around you. When it is hard to forgive, may God give you grace. When it is hard to be patient, may He give you strength. Amen.”**

LESSON FOUR

GOD STATEMENT: God is Good
SCRIPTURE: Psalm 100



GOD'S WORD



Read: Psalm 100 together as a family.

Have you ever noticed how saying "thank you" changes the atmosphere in a room? **Gratitude has a way of shifting our focus.** Instead of dwelling on what we don't have, it helps us recognize the goodness of what God has already given us.

Psalm 100 is an invitation to live with that kind of grateful heart. The Psalmist doesn't tell God's people to give thanks because life is easy or because every prayer has been answered. Instead, he points them to the unchanging character of God. "Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his." Before we count our blessings, we remember the One who gives them.

Gratitude begins with knowing God. When we remember that He is our Creator, our Shepherd, and our faithful Father, thanksgiving becomes more than a polite response, but rather it becomes an act of worship. We can praise Him in joyful seasons and difficult ones because His goodness is not dependent on our circumstances.

As Psalm 100 reminds us, "The Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

As a family, gratitude can become more than something we say before a meal. It can become a way of seeing the world. When we intentionally notice God's faithfulness each day, our hearts begin to recognize His fingerprints in both the extraordinary and the ordinary. **A grateful family learns to celebrate God's gifts, encourage one another, and trust Him for what is still to come.** Thanksgiving can be more than simply a holiday celebrated once a year; it can be an invitation to draw closer to the God who is worthy of our praise every day.

DISCUSSION

1. According to Psalm 100, what are some of the reasons we can give thanks to God no matter what is happening in our lives?
2. What are some everyday gifts from God that our family might overlook and not say "thank you" for?
3. How can practicing gratitude every day help us grow closer to God and to one another?

CREATE

Gratitude Garland

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Construction paper in fall colors
- Leaf template (or pre-cut paper leaves)
- Hole punch or Mini Clips
- Twine or ribbon
- Markers

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. Each family member writes one thing they are thankful to God for on 5-10 leaves. Punch holes and string the leaves into a garland to hang over a doorway, fireplace, or dining table for Thanksgiving.
2. Keep a basket of extra leaves with a marker, so as the month goes on, your family members or guests can add new leaves whenever someone thinks of another reason to thank God.



Thanksgiving Table Prayer Cards

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Blank place cards (or cardstock/blank paper)
- Markers
- Stickers (optional)

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. Have each family member decorate "tent-like" cards to place around the Thanksgiving table. Write on each card a prompt:
 - How has God provided for you?
 - Who is someone who has blessed your life?
 - How did God use a difficult time in your life for good?
 - What promise of God comforts you?
 - How have you seen God help you forgive someone?
 - What gifts has God shown His love for you through?
2. These prompts can become "conversation starters" during the Thanksgiving meal. Take time to pray and thank God for each of the things mentioned.



START LESSON 7 CREATE
AND LESSON 8 WORSHIP THE
FIRST DAY OF DECEMBER.

Blessing

Psalm 145:9: **"(Child's name), may you always remember that God is good.** May your heart notice His gifts in both the big moments and the little ones. When life is joyful, may you praise Him with gladness. When life is difficult, may you trust that His love never changes. Amen."

Brown Butter Pumpkin Coffee Cake

Make this coffee cake ahead of time and serve on Thanksgiving morning, so everyone is taken care of while the meal is being made. The cake will last 3 to 5 days in the refrigerator if you wait to ice the cake until it's ready to serve.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED FOR THE CAKE

- 10 tbsp unsalted butter, browned
- 1 1/4 cup dark brown sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 cup pumpkin puree
- 2/3 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 1 tbsp vanilla bean paste
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 2 tbsp pumpkin pie spice
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 2 tsp baking powder



WHAT YOU'LL NEED FOR THE STREUSEL

- 1 cup dark brown sugar
- 1 1/4 cup all purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted

WHAT YOU'LL NEED FOR MAPLE GLAZE

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 2 tbsp maple syrup
- 5 tbsp heavy cream

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. Place butter in a small saucepan on medium high heat, stir continuously until you have a golden foamy butter. Remove from heat and set aside to cool.
2. In a large bowl combine the cooled brown butter, brown sugar, Greek yogurt, eggs and pumpkin puree. Give it a good mix until everything is well combined.
3. To your wet batter add the flour, pumpkin pie spice, cinnamon, salt, baking powder and baking soda and fold until everything is combined then set aside while you work on the streusel.
4. In a small bowl add the flour, brown sugar, cinnamon and butter. Mix until you have coarse crumbs and set aside.
5. Line an 8x8 baking pan with parchment paper, place half of your batter onto the pan and add a thick layer of streusel. Add the remaining half of your batter over the streusel and top off with another thick layer of streusel.
6. Bake at 375°F for 45-60 minutes. You'll know it's ready when you stick a toothpick in the center of the pan and it comes out dry.
7. While the coffee cake bakes start working on the maple glaze. In a small bowl combine the confectioners' sugar, maple syrup and heavy cream. Mix until smooth and set aside.
8. Once the coffee cake has baked and cooled, drizzle the maple glaze and enjoy!

FAMILY RECIPE TESTIMONY

Invite families to choose one favorite holiday recipe and write beside it:

- Who first made this?
- Why is it special?
- How has God been faithful to our family through the generations?

Imagine grandchildren someday pulling out Grandma's pumpkin pie recipe and reading not just the ingredients but the story of God's faithfulness attached to it.

Joy To The World Cookies

As soon as God made the promise to send a Redeemer, God's people began to wait for the day when the Redeemer would come to repair the broken relationship between God and people. The faith community greatly anticipated the coming of their King. This month, we'll also come together with our faith community to celebrate the birth of our Redeemer and Savior!

Gather these very basic ingredients and spend some time with your kids as you prepare sugar cookies to give away. As you're mixing, cutting, and baking, ask your kids with whom in their faith community do they want to share the cookies. **What people might need a little "JOY" to encourage them or lift their spirits?** Let your kids take the lead, and try to encourage them in the process. Gift wrap abounds this time of year, so get creative with packaging, and let your kids help with that part too!

by Angelina Pavone

EMPTY CHAIR BLESSING

For families missing someone during the holidays or welcoming someone new, encourage them to leave an empty chair for a moment before the meal. Pray for those who are absent, thank God for those who have shaped your faith, and ask Him to help your family be a place of welcome. It's a gentle way to acknowledge both joy and grief during the season.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup granulated white sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 egg
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 3 cup all purpose flour
- "J," "O," and "Y" cookie cutters
- Disposable tin, tissue paper, and other gift-wrapping embellishments

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. In the bowl of your mixer, cream butter and sugar until smooth.
3. Beat in vanilla extract and egg.
4. In a separate bowl, mix dry ingredients together and add a little at a time to the wet ingredients. The dough will be stiff. If it becomes too stiff for your mixer, turn out the dough onto a floured surface and finish kneading by hand.
5. Divide the dough into workable batches and roll out onto a floured surface until about an inch thick.
6. Use cookie cutters to cut out equal numbers of "J," "O," and "Y."
7. Place on baking sheet and bake for six to eight minutes. Let cool on baking sheet for five to six minutes before transferring to cooling rack.
8. Once cookies have cooled, place tissue paper in the disposable tin and package up the cookies for your faith community.





Consider creating a starry path for your family to follow on **Christmas morning**. Spend time worshipping God together for the great gift of His Son.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Glow-in-the-dark stars (enough to create a path from your children's rooms to the Christmas tree)
- Bible
- Nativity scene featuring Mary, Joseph, a donkey, various animals, an angel, a shepherd, the wise men, and baby Jesus
- Angel food cake adorned with three candles

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. Read the story below and enjoy replicating the tradition for your family.

On Christmas Eve, once all four of our kids are in bed, my husband and I make a trail of plastic glow-in-the-dark stars that travels throughout our house. We start at their bedroom doors, loop through the kitchen and bathrooms, go down and up the stairs, and end near our Christmas tree. Along the starry path, we place different pieces of our nativity set, in the order they appear in the Christmas story. We end with baby Jesus. At the end of the trail we also have an angel food cake with three candles on top—each with its own special meaning. **At the first early morning rustlings we hear, my husband and I jump out of bed,** usually to find four faces staring at the tiny figurines outside of their doorways. Eight little eyes twinkle with anticipation about where the starry trail will lead this year. Of course they know the story by now, since we've been creating this trail for nine years, but they're still excited, because this tradition defines the season for them.

At the first stop they find Mary, Joseph, and a donkey. **Here we read Luke 2:1-5** and then carefully follow the stars to the next stop—just as the wise men followed the stars in The Big God Story. At the next stop they find the animals, and we read **Luke 2:6-7**. Picking up all of the figurines, they move along the trail, stopping to pick up the angel and the shepherds, where we read **Luke 2:8-20**. At the fourth stop on the trail, we fast-forward just a bit and pick up the wise men, reading **Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11** before heading to our final destination by the Christmas tree.

No matter how many gifts are under the tree, all eyes stare in awe at the tiny baby Jesus figurine and the angel food cake with three glowing candles. We light three candles to remember three things: First, the wise men followed a star to find Jesus. Second, Jesus is the Light of the World. And, third, we're to be a light for others, to help them find Jesus. Then we worship God together by singing a song. Some years it's been "Happy Birthday" to Jesus; others it's been "Silent Night" or "Away in a Manger." Then we blow out the candles and eat the cake. We get to the presents eventually. **But, before we do that, we savor knowing that we serve a loving God who knows us intimately and wants us to know Him—so completely that He sent His Son that starry night.**

by Courtney Wilson

Mana's

Since our oldest was two, he and his “Mana” have shared a special tradition of spending a December day baking and decorating Christmas cookies. Every year it’s a different recipe, and every year both of our sons anticipate loading up the car and heading to spend a day in grandma’s kitchen.

With Christmas music playing and a crackling fire in the fireplace, it’s a quality-time event that bonds our sons to their Grandma. At the same time, it ushers in the reason we celebrate Christmas—knowing and worshipping Jesus.

Our boys grab their step stools and put on their kid aprons, and side by side with Mana they get to work. Mana’s skilled hands wrap the boys’ little hands as they mix, stir, bake, frost, and decorate. While the boys help, they talk about Christmas and the reason we honor Jesus’ birthday.

“He knows you inside and out. He knows every curly hair on your head,” Mana tells Tanner and Ty. “And He was born a baby just like you were!” They giggle and lick chocolate and sample crumbs. **Smells of peppermint fill the kitchen, and, as a family, we create memories surrounding the gift of celebrating a Savior who knows us personally.**

As the sun sinks, we drive home, bellies full of delicious treats ready to share with neighbors and friends. A tradition of Christmas baking turns outward as we give away sweet reminders of the holiday season and the One who knows us inside and out.

by Bekah Pogue



WHAT YOU’LL NEED

- 1 bag Oreo cookies
- 16 oz. semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 doz. peppermint candy canes
- Wax paper
- 2 gallon-sized plastic bags
- Rolling pin
- Large bowl

WHAT YOU’LL DO

1. Double-bag two gallon-sized plastic bags and place three or four unwrapped candy canes inside. Make sure to squeeze all of the air out of the bag. Have each child use the rolling pin to crunch, break, and roll the candy canes into tiny pieces. Pour the peppermint pieces into a large bowl and set aside.
2. Pour all of the chocolate chips into a large glass bowl. Melt in the microwave for 30 seconds. Stir. Melt another 30 seconds or until the chocolate is smooth when stirred.
3. Place wax paper under the bowl of melted chocolate. Have each child take an Oreo, dip half of it into the melted chocolate, and then dip that half into the peppermint pieces.
4. Place the dipped Oreos on a large platter covered with wax paper and refrigerate overnight before serving.

LESSON FIVE

Flannelgraph

CREATE

If you grew up in Sunday school, you may remember hearing Bible stories told with flannelgraphs. This month, create your own board and use God's Word to tell the story of Jesus' birth.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Foam core board (approx. 1 ft. x 1.5 ft)
- Black flannel (cut to the size of the board with enough to wrap around the sides)
- Nativity cutouts (pages 34-35)
- Colored flannel or glittery paper (enough to cut out each nativity piece)
- Optional: frame (to go around foam core board)

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. First, wrap one side of the foam core board with the black flannel. (You may choose to frame the board with the optional frame.)
2. Then cut out the nativity cutouts using colored flannel or glittery paper.
3. Finally, follow the directions and use the cutouts to illustrate the story as you share it with your children.



Copy and cut out from
Resources on pp. 26-27.

GOD'S WORD

(Start with the black background.) **In the beginning, after Adam and Eve chose to sin, God promised that one day He would send a Redeemer.** The Redeemer would save His people from their sins and would restore the relationship between God and man. God's people knew that God always keeps His promises, and they began to wait for this promised Redeemer to arrive. As they waited, thousands of years passed.

One day, a young girl named Mary (*place Mary cutout on board*), who lived in the small town of Nazareth, experienced something amazing. An angel appeared to her! (*Place angel cutout on board.*) Mary was very frightened, but the angel told Mary not to be afraid. He told her she would have a baby boy. Mary was confused and asked the angel how this could happen since she had never been married. The angel explained that God had chosen her to carry this special baby.

Mary was engaged to a young man named Joseph. (*Place Joseph cutout.*) Joseph was confused by what was happening to Mary, and he didn't know what to do. One night, while Joseph was sleeping, an angel appeared to him in a dream. (*Move angel cutout.*) The angel told Joseph that Mary had been chosen by God to give birth to the promised Redeemer. Joseph and Mary would be Jesus' earthly parents!

Toward the end of Mary's pregnancy, when her belly was big and the baby was close to arriving, Joseph received

word that they needed to go to Bethlehem. Bethlehem was far away, and Joseph and Mary were probably very tired when they arrived. Mary knew that the baby would be coming soon, but because there were so many people in Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph couldn't find a room to stay in. So they stayed with the animals! (*Place animals.*) There, among the animals, Mary gave birth to Jesus. (*Place baby Jesus.*)

Meanwhile, some shepherds were watching over their flocks of sheep. (*Place shepherds.*) Again, an angel appeared. (*Move angel.*) The angel told them that the Redeemer had been born! Many other angels appeared and sang praises to God to celebrate the baby's arrival. The shepherds decided to go to Bethlehem at once to see Jesus.

A special star had also appeared in the sky. (*Place star.*) A group of wise men knew this star meant that the Messiah had been born. They also knew that if they followed this star, they would find Jesus. These men traveled to Bethlehem. (*Place wise men.*) When they found Jesus, they worshipped Him and gave Him gifts.

The men knew that God had kept His promise to send a Savior to restore the relationship between God and men. We too can have a restored relationship with Jesus. And just like the wise men, we can know Him and celebrate His birth.

by Alyson Crockett

Do You Know What I Know?

This worship response activity is for the whole family.

In fact, you may want to invite your extended family to participate during your holiday celebrations!

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Paper
- Bowl

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. On small pieces of paper or sticky notes, write down titles of Christmas carols your children will know.
2. Fold up the papers and put them in a hat or bowl.
3. Then gather everyone into a circle.
4. Choose someone to pick a Christmas carol from the hat and read the title aloud.
5. Going clockwise, each individual will take a turn saying one word from the lyrics.
6. When a person can't come up with the next word, he's out, and the activity continues with the remaining family members until you're down to one person—the winner.

HELPFUL HINT

To make this easier, you might print or write the lyrics to each carol so you can check the words. Or, keep a smartphone handy to let you double-check the lyrics online.

REMEMBER

Sometimes it's hard to know all of the words to a song or a carol, even when you have a lot of people playing the game. **But it's never hard for God to know us.** He loves every single one of us and knows us by name! He knows everything about us—from the number of hairs on our heads to the things that scare us the most. And God wants us to know Him!

by Heather Kasparian



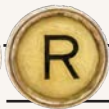
Blessing

Isaiah 9:2; 6-7" **(Child's name), may you take delight in the Christmas Story knowing that each part of it represents how God was preparing a way for us to be in relationship with Him through Jesus.** May you know that you can now be a part of His story because of what took place on that very first Christmas day in Bethlehem. Amen."

LESSON SIX

GOD STATEMENT: God is Promise Keeper
SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1

GOD'S WORD



Read: Matthew 1 together as a family.

As you read, have your children listen carefully to these names, and invite them to raise their hands if they know the story of God through a particular person. Listen to your child share that person's part of The Big God Story, and then continue through the chapter.

The story of God continues in His people today who still wait and prepare. Our spiritual ancestors didn't intend for Advent to celebrate Jesus' birth; **they wanted to connect His first coming to the fact that He promised to come again.**

DISCUSSION

1. How might you be more intentional about anticipating and preparing for Jesus' second coming?



CREATE

The *Waiting* Game

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Small gift item (toy car, small doll, game, etc.)
- Gift-wrapping items (wrapping paper, boxes, bags with tissue paper, etc.)
- Scissors
- Tape
- Music
- Optional: Buy duplicates of the gift item so that each child gets one at the end.

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. Begin by wrapping the gift item. Wrap it again, creating a second layer of packaging. Repeat wrapping the item layer upon layer, five or six times.
2. Gather your family and designate one person to be the music player.
3. Have everyone else sit in a circle.
4. Let the youngest player start by holding the wrapped present.
5. Begin playing the music and passing the present around the circle.
6. When the music stops, the person holding the present gets to unwrap the first layer.

7. Once the first layer has been unwrapped, start the music again and repeat. Continue doing this until someone gets to the actual present.

Talk with your family about what it was like to wait and wait before anyone could see what the present was. Ask them what they think it must have been like for those waiting for the promised Messiah to come.

ADD A TWIST

Add a fun twist to this game by playing a second round. Wrap a secondary gift item several times and hide it somewhere in your home. The first person to find the present gets to unwrap the first layer. You will then hide the present again and repeat until the last finder unwraps the final layer.

REMEMBER

Remind your children of how excited they felt when they found out what the present was. Once again, encourage them to imagine how much more excited the people waiting for Jesus must have felt! They were waiting for something truly wonderful and amazing! As we wait for the Messiah to come back, we also get to wait in excitement together with so many other people in our own faith community. **What a blessing it is for God to allow us to live in community with one another and with those who are just as excited as we are to see His face when He returns!**

The Promise *Is Coming*



As a kid, we learn very quickly that lying in bed all night thinking about the presents we'll open on Christmas morning is torture, but if we fall asleep, the night goes faster. You won't remember a thing after your eyes close. Too often, we close our spiritual eyes during Advent and wake up the day after Christmas with a headache. **However, the body of Christ has set aside the Advent season to help us keep our eyes open and focused on the work of God.**

Too often we make the mistake of believing that Advent begins in the Gospels. **Advent is a time of waiting and preparation and begins thousands of years earlier.** Matthew's opening chapter begins with one of those boring genealogies full of hard-to-pronounce names. It's easy to skip to verse 18 to begin the story. But when we stop to pay attention, we realize that every name is connected to a life, and through every life, God tells His story. A scarlet thread runs through them—a thread that connects God's promise that through Abraham's descendants (Genesis 22:18) all nations would be blessed to the fulfillment of that promise thousands of years later in the womb of Mary (Matthew 1:18).

Generations and generations of faithful men and women waited for God's promises to be fulfilled. Luke's genealogy traces the waiting and preparation all the way back to Adam. Mary becomes a beautiful picture of Advent because there is no more appropriate picture of anxious waiting and preparation than a pregnant woman. Matthew's genealogy measures out for us the faithful waiting of God's people for the coming Messiah.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Chocolate coins for everyone

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. Read about Jesus' birth in Luke 2.
2. When you get to the part where Mary and Joseph arrive and have to pay taxes, give everyone a chocolate coin. Consider repeating the process several times throughout the month. After a few times, allow your children to tell the narrative to you from memory!

ADVENT

Blessing

Micah 5:2: "(Child's name), may you know that God keeps His promises. He said that He would send a Savior and He did in Jesus! May you know that Jesus is the reason we celebrate Christmas and that you can always trust Him to keep His promises. Amen."



LESSON SEVEN

GOD STATEMENT: God is Worthy

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:1-15

GOD'S WORD



Read: Luke 2:1-15 together as a family.

Think about this, the most important events in life are worth announcing. **When something happens that truly matters, we don't shy away from sharing it.** Instead, we will tell anyone willing to listen. Imagine the excitement of the angel selected by God Himself to announce the news that Jesus, the redeemer of all mankind, had come to earth (Luke 2:9-10). **It was a birth announcement like none other!** If social media had existed 2,000 years ago, the Instagram account of this angel would have trended to the top instantly. As great as the announcement was (so great it provoked reverent fear), it paled in comparison to the RESPONSE.

The Bible states that a "great company of heavenly host" appeared in response to the announcement and began praising God (Luke 2:13). The Greek word for "host" (stratia) is understood to mean both a troop of angels and the stars of the heavens. The number of angels responding to the birth of Jesus was so large that it could only be likened to the limitless number of stars in the heavens! Even more significant than their vast number was the response of praise that came from their mouths: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests" (Luke 2:14).

Worship is the activity of the human heart. **It is not a question of "if" we will worship, but rather "what."** The angels were utterly convinced that the arrival of Jesus on the earth was yet another reason to give God the highest glory, honor, and worship. Having a front-row seat to all

the action, we can only imagine that the angels were mesmerized by God's actions and essence. Anything short of all-out worship must have seemed irrational, even unthinkable, to them. **We know we are experiencing God for who He really is when worship starts bubbling up from within us.** Like the angels, we are rightfully responding to the great gift of Jesus when we find ourselves declaring His goodness to the world around us.

DISCUSSION

1. How would you have responded if you were one of the shepherds in the field that night?
2. Why do you think so many angels showed up in response to the birth of Jesus?
3. How would you define worship?
4. How can our family pay more attention to God?
5. What could we do to worship God more?



CREATE

Advent Praise

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- 24 ornaments
- Permanent marker
- Large glass vase
- Bible

WHAT YOU'LL DO

1. Write each verse on page 28 on an ornament.
2. Place all of the ornaments together in a large bowl, vase, or jar.
3. Each day of December, take one ornament from the bowl or vase and read the verse together.
4. Ask your children, "What does this verse tell us about God?" Be sure to help them identify some of the names of God and Jesus that are highlighted in these verses.
5. Then pray together, praising God for who He is.
6. As a reminder of your praise, hang the ornament on your Christmas tree.

In *Between* Sundays

Worshipping God in a group setting is wonderful. Even the angels sang together. Consider the true story in Luke 2:13-14. Scripture recounts, "Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest'"

Corporate worship is indeed beautiful, but let's remember worship is so much more than only singing together. As Matt Redman puts it in his song, "The Heart of Worship,"

I'll bring you more than a song
For a song in itself
Is not what you have required.

It is in the time between Sundays that we have our greatest opportunity to live out worship. Like the angels in the field, this is where the miracle of worship intersects with the ordinary of our life.

Take some time this month to worship with your kids between the Sundays. Here are some practical examples you might try:

- Play worship music while driving in the car.
- Help your neighbor by mowing the yard, raking the leaves, or shoveling their driveway.
- Pray together.
- Be intentional about conversation that focuses on the Lord.
- Treat other people the way you want to be treated.

As we lay down our lives as an act of worship, we are creating a culture of worship in our homes that our kids will not miss. Make a point to worship God, like the angels, simply because He is worthy of it. You will not be disappointed!

by Bobby Taylor

Blessing

Luke 2:10-14 "(Child's name), may you know how much God loves you. He was willing to come to earth in the form of a man so that when you saw Jesus in the flesh, you would see how much you are treasured and valued. Jesus was born so that you would know Who God is and that you would have a relationship with Him forever. Amen."



LESSON EIGHT

Lamb of God



GOD'S WORD

The New Testament actually insists that unless Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies, our faith is useless. Indeed, some 20 times the authors of the New Testament used the phrase “to fulfill the Scriptures” or an equivalent phrase to prove that Jesus is the promised Messiah sent to rescue humanity from sin and judgment.

Predictive prophecy, the foretelling of events according to the plan of God, is one of the greatest assurances we have that our faith is rational and sound. Consider some of these specifics about Jesus’ birth, life, and death—given in the Old Testament and fulfilled in the New Testament:

- He would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:6)
- He would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23)
- He would be of the tribe of David (Genesis 49:10; Matthew 1:1-16)
- He would come out of Egypt (Hosea 11:1; Matthew 2:15)

- He would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver (Jeremiah 19:1-13; Zechariah 11:11-13; Matthew 27:9)
- He would die among criminals (Isaiah 53:12; Luke 23:32-33)
- He would be pierced, but His bones would remain intact (Psalm 34:20; Zechariah 12:10; John 19:36-37)
- His garments would be divided (Psalm 22:18; John 19:24)

It’s clear God gave abundant evidence for His people to recognize their Messiah when He arrived. However, the teachers of Israel who knew the Old Testament prophets best still rejected the One described in these prophecies. Jesus said, “You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life” (John 5:39-40).

Each person has the opportunity to accept or reject the person of Christ as King. Each Christmas we have the opportunity once again to welcome Him as our Lord.

Memory Ornaments

CREATE

As a family, spend some time reflecting on the past year. Share with each other the moments that were the most impactful, both good times and difficult times. What people did you meet? What did you learn? How did you serve? What moments made you roll on the floor laughing? What situations caused you to cry?

WHAT YOU’LL NEED

- 1 clear, acrylic, fillable ornament for each family member
- Family photos printed small enough to fit inside the ornament or other small mementos from the past year
- Scrapbook paper, markers, scissors, or other art supplies

WHAT YOU’LL DO

1. Choose a few of these memories to capture inside each family member’s ornament.
2. Print or draw small pictures to capture those memories. Also, write any words to remind you of the ups and downs of this year. Then put these pictures and words, along with any small mementos, inside each ornament.

3. Reflect on the fact that God knows your family intimately and has been with you throughout the whole year. Ask, “How does it make you feel to know God has been with us through all of the special moments as well as the painful moments?”
4. Praise God for His faithfulness in the past year, and then pray for the year ahead.
5. Ask God to continue to reveal Himself to your family so you will come to know Him even more in this next year and will see His gracious hand in every circumstance.

by Emily Ganzfried



Hear It

One of the most moving prophecies concerning Christ's person and ministry is found in Isaiah 52:13–53:12.

It paints a beautiful picture of the cause and nature of Christ's suffering 750 years before it occurred. Read this passage with your family and then compare it to one of the gospel accounts of Jesus' crucifixion (such as John 18–19). If you have younger children, use a children's Bible for the crucifixion text in the interest of time and sensitivity. See how many similarities your family members see between the Isaiah prophecy and what Jesus experienced. Talk about how many times Isaiah indicated that it was "for us" that the Servant endured these things. Pray and thank God for planning this salvation from eternity past, even though He knew what it would cost Him and His Son.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- 25 equal-sized strips or "links" of paper. Use construction paper or thick Christmas-themed red and green paper.
- Tape or glue to secure each paper chain "link".

WHAT YOU'LL DO

A cherished family tradition involves making an Advent chain. **Consider making yours the day after Thanksgiving in preparation of Advent.**

1. Use one construction paper link for each day of Advent, alternating red and green.
2. On each link write a name of Jesus and the Scripture reference for His name. Many of the names come from Old Testament prophecies or have Old Testament imagery embedded in them. Some examples: Lion of the Tribe of Judah, Alpha and Omega, Lamb of God. (You can find these lists online, or your study Bible might have a chart.)
3. Hang the chain by your dining room table, and incorporate the chain into your daily routine starting on December 1st and ending on December 25th.
4. Each night after dinner, starting from the first link, read the verse and name on that link.
5. Talk about the significance of that name of Jesus.
6. Remind your kids that Jesus is coming back, and as the chain gets shorter, their anticipation of Christ's arrival grows.

Blessing

Luke 23:32-33: "(Child's name), may you know that God had a plan in sending Jesus to be born.

When He became a man, He would suffer and die on a cross to take away your sin and the sins of all who would believe. May you believe in Him and receive His free gift of salvation this Christmas. Amen."

RESOURCE PAGE



SHEPHERD



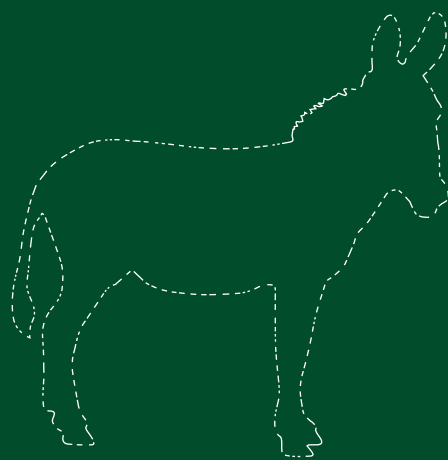
WISE MAN



WISE MAN



SHEPHERD



DONKEY



SHEEP



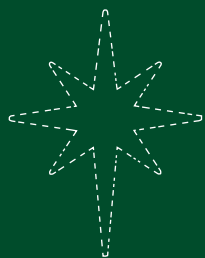
JOSEPH



Trace

USE THESE FOR THE
FLANNELGRAPH CHRISTMAS

Find in Lesson Five page 18



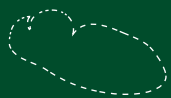
STAR



ANGEL



COW



BABY JESUS



MANGER



MARY



CALF



WISE MAN



Advent

Praise

1. Isaiah 40:11
2. Isaiah 9:6
3. Hebrews 13:15
4. Matthew 1:21
5. Hebrews 12:2
6. 2 Corinthians 8:9
7. John 14:27
8. Isaiah 53:5
9. Ephesians 5:2
10. Luke 1:30-33
11. Romans 10:9
12. Matthew 19:14
13. John 8:12
14. Acts 1:11
15. Hebrews 13:8
16. Hebrews 4:14
17. Philippians 2:10
18. John 20:31
19. 1 John 3:16
20. 2 Corinthians 1:3
21. Ephesians 2:19-22
22. Philippians 4:6-7
23. 1 Thessalonians 5:18
24. Matthew 1:23



Merry Christmas

— • • • ❄️ & ❄️ • • • —
HAPPY NEW YEAR



November
FAMILY TIME VERSE

Finally
brothers and sisters,
whatever is true,
whatever is noble
whatever is *right*,
whatever is pure
whatever
is lovely,
whatever is
admirable -
if anything is excellent
or praiseworthy-
think on
such things

PHILIPPIANS 4:8

HomeFront



December
FAMILY TIME VERSE

For to us a
child is born,
to us a **son is given**,
and the government
will be on his
shoulders.

And he will be
called **Wonderful**
Counselor, Mighty
God, Everlasting
Father, Prince of
Peace.

ISAIAH 9:6

HomeFront

