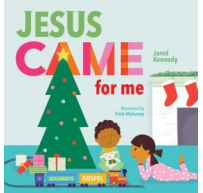


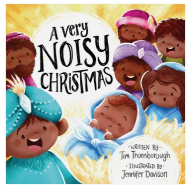
# Advent and Christmas Resources



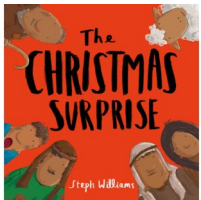
***The First Christmas Lift and Flap Book by Sarah Parker*** This fun and faithful lift-the-flap book will teach toddlers key truths about the first Christmas. They will love interacting with the Christmas story as they lift a flap on each page to see what happens next. This beautifully illustrated board book makes a wonderful gift for 1-3-year-olds.



***Jesus Came for Me by Jared Kennedy*** Because Jesus was born at Christmas, we can know that he is with us always. This board book by author Jared Kennedy helps toddlers and preschoolers understand the true meaning of Christmas in a personal, memorable way. Ages 3-7



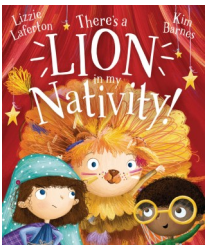
***Very Noisy Christmas by Tim Thornborough & Jennifer Davison*** A fun re-telling of the Christmas story for young children, including regular invitations to make some noise!



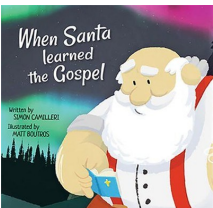
***The Christmas Surprise by Steph Williams*** This simple and biblically-faithful little book will teach toddlers all about the first Christmas. Fun illustrations will engage young children as they listen to God's word.



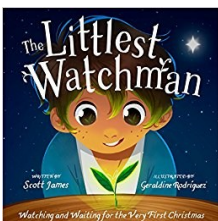
***The Big, Big, Big Christmas by Mei Shan Dibble*** The wonder of the incarnation told in a fresh, funny and child-friendly way. This hilarious series of zany comparisons that get bigger and bigger will help children discover just how big God is and how completely mind-blowingly amazing it is that he became a tiny baby at Christmas.



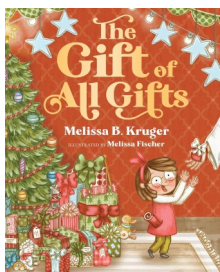
***There's a Lion in My Nativity by Lizzie Laferton*** This rhyming book with warm, quirky illustrations makes a beautiful Christmas gift for children who are 4-7 years old. In this story of a Christmas nativity play, Mary thinks she is the star of the show. However, as the play goes on, she finds that every scene has been stolen by an unlikely character or object, such as a tent, a phone and a lion! Along with Mary, readers will see that Jesus is the true star of the show and that it is wonderful to know him.



***When Santa Learned the Gospel by Simon Camilleri*** Follow Santa's journey in this unique Christmas fable as he learns about Jesus' message of grace and discovers what it means for both the naughty and the nice.



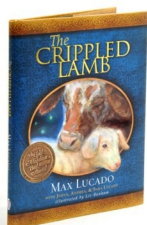
***The Littlest Watchman by James Scott*** Benjamin is a Watchman. It's his job to watch for the sign that all God's promises are coming true—to watch a stump. Trouble is, it's hard just waiting. And one night, Benjamin finally gives in and stops watching. But that same night, as he sits outside Bethlehem, he gets to watch something wonderful. There a book and an advent devotional calendar. Kids will be gripped by what Benjamin saw, and will be excited by the Christmas story all over again.



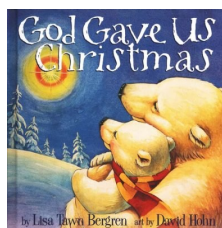
**The Gift of All Gifts by Melissa Druger** Whether it's toys, treats, building bricks, or board games, children look forward to unwrapping fun and exciting items from their Christmas wish list. The Gift of All Gifts helps children expand their understanding of a present, especially the greatest gift ever given—God's son, Jesus Christ.



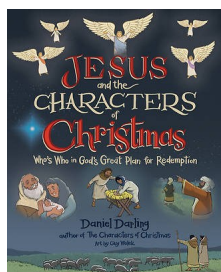
**Seek and Find: The First Christmas** Young children will love interacting with the Christmas story as they find, count, and sort over 450 hidden things in this large-format board book. They will learn key truths about the first Christmas through the biblically faithful illustrations and retellings of the Gospel accounts of Jesus' birth.



**The Crippled Lamb by Max Lucado** Introduce your little ones to this classic tale by Max Lucado and teach your children that God has a plan for everyone. Joshua is a lamb with a crippled leg that always feels left out when all the other lambs run and play and he cannot. But God has a very special plan for Joshua's life, as He does for all who feel alone. Recommended for ages 4-8



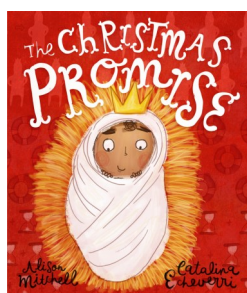
**God Gave Us Christmas Lisa Tawn Bergren** In this enchanting picture book, you can help young children celebrate the true meaning of Christmas, and it offers the perfect opportunity for little ones to discover the awesome truth of how much God loves them. In the midst of all the Christmas preparations, curious Little Cub asks one day, "Who invented Christmas?" Mama's answer only leads to more questions, like: "Is God more important than Santa?" So Mama decides to take Little Cub on an expedition to discover how God gave them Christmas. As their journey unfolds, the pair finds signs that God is at work all around them. Mama's gentle guidance helps Little Cub discover that Jesus is the best present of all! Recommended for



**Jesus and the Characters of Christmas by Daniel Darling** Children will learn more about the unlikely people God chose to be part of the greatest, most miraculous story of all--the birth of Jesus. Most children know about Jesus, Mary, Joseph, the wise men, and the shepherds, but there's more to the Christmas story than we see in the traditional Nativity scene. From Christ's ancestors to the angels to the innkeeper, God selected some surprising people to bring about His miracle in the manger. As children discover this diverse cast of characters, they will marvel at how God uses people from different backgrounds--including them!--to accomplish amazing things.



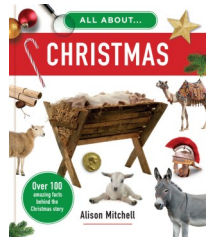
**The Christmas Story Brick by Brick by Rachael Hood** This faithful rhyming retelling of the Christmas story will help Lego-loving children to engage with the Christmas story afresh, highlighting the surprise and excitement of who Jesus is and why he came. Fun rhymes make for a memorable and enjoyable read, while richly colored, glossy photographs of real brick builds will inspire kids to get creative!



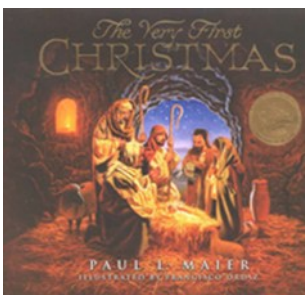
**The Christmas Promise by Alison Mitchell** Many, many years ago God made a very special promise to his people---a promise that would deliver a king of all kings! Delight your children this Christmas season with the promise of hope that Jesus brings to us all. With whimsical illustrations and a simple text, this illustrated picture book introduces the Christmas story and its importance on us all, in a manner that young children can understand. This attractive lift-the-flap Advent Calendar for children 5-11 years old matches the illustrations in The Christmas Promise Storybook. The kids' Advent calendar includes a booklet containing 25 devotions to help families explore the Bible together in the run up to Christmas. Each window in the Advent Calendar opens to reveal a rich, full color illustration of the events of the first Christmas.



**Cracking the Christmas Code by Catherine Mackenzie** Discover the true meaning of Christmas with this delightful puzzle book that brings the Biblical nativity story to life! Acclaimed children's author Catherine Mackenzie invites young readers ages 6-8 on an interactive journey through the very first Christmas, combining faith, fun, and learning. Each beautifully illustrated page features engaging puzzles that help children explore the miraculous events in Bethlehem. Follow Mary and Joseph's journey, help the shepherds find their way to the manger, decode angel messages, and spot differences in scenes of the wise men's travels. As children solve each puzzle, they'll discover deeper insights into Jesus's birth and God's amazing plan.



**All About Christmas Alison Mitchell** Go back in time and explore fascinating facts about the Roman civilisation at the time of Jesus' birth, what the life of a shepherd was like, and how far Mary and Joseph travelled to get to Bethlehem. Plus, have fun checking out why Germans hide pickles and why Icelandic children leave their shoes on the window sill on Christmas Eve! Children will learn that the Christmas story is rooted in real places, real people and real historic events, so they can be confident that it is fact, not fiction.

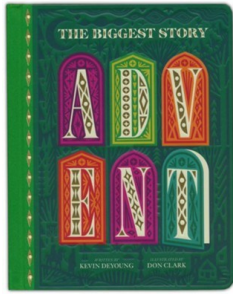


**The Very First Christmas by Paul L. Maier** Many children's Christmas books are long on fancy and short on fact. Most of them ignore the themes of the first Christmas and opt instead for fairy tale settings or winter tableaux. This beautifully illustrated book, a Gold Medallion Book Award winner, fills the gap by presenting fresh insights into the Christmas story from both the scriptural and secular context. The book tells the story of a young boy Christopher, who no longer wants to hear fairytales; he only wants real bedtime stories. So his mother tells the amazing and miraculous story of Jesus' birth. Along the way, Christopher learns the answers to some challenging questions about the Christmas story. And all the answers are right from the Bible. Recommended for ages 5 to 10,

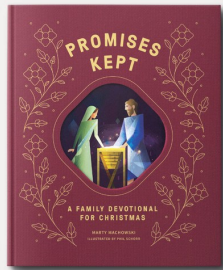


**The Promise and the Light by Katy Morgan** What if you were visited by an angel one night who told you that you were to give birth to the Son of God? How would you feel? What might you think? Written as a series of vivid and dramatic first-person accounts, *The Promise and The Light* tells the stories of Mary, Joseph and Zechariah as they experience the events of the first Christmas. Written in a lively and engaging style, this imaginative yet biblically faithful book will captivate children aged 8-12.

# Family Advent Devotionals



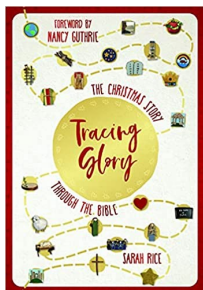
**The Biggest Story Advent by Kevin DeYoung**, pastor and author of the popular *Biggest Story Bible Storybook*, has written 25 warm, compelling advent devotions for kids that start from the beginning of Scripture and feature a daily surprise. Each reading opens with a fun lift-the-flap page, which kids open to reveal a Bible passage and colorful illustration. On the opposite page, DeYoung retells a related Bible story or prophecy that foretold Jesus's coming, and shares a simple prayer to recite. Helping kids understand God's redemption story from Genesis to Jesus's birth, this devotional is a fun, interactive way to center your holiday traditions on Christ and to see how he is the fulfillment of promises God made throughout Scripture.



**Promises Made, Promises Kept by Marty Machowski** Start a new family tradition for the Christmas season by reading this "upside-down" book that includes fourteen Bible stories. Begin the week before Christmas with the first side, *Promises Made* which has seven stories that explore the Old Testament prophecies of the coming Messiah. On Christmas Day, flip the book over and continue by reading *Promises Kept* with seven more stories that vividly illustrate how Jesus's life, death, and resurrection and the beginning of the church fulfill God's p



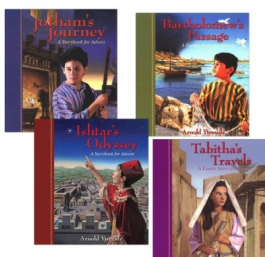
**The One We're Waiting For by Taylor Combs** Create meaningful Advent memories with the whole family using this gorgeous illustrated 25-day devotional. The whole Bible whispers about a coming King. Every book before His arrival gives hints about what He might be like, and during Advent, families around the world gather to wait and prepare for the celebration of His birth. Each day, families can read a story, discuss how they see Jesus in Old Testament narratives, sing songs together, and place an illustrated ornament on the tree so that every day of December leading up to Christmas is filled with eager anticipation for the King--the one we waited for.



**Tracing Glory: The Christmas Story Through the Bible** is a twenty-five day Advent devotional. It begins looking back at the creation of the world in the book of Genesis and ends looking forward to the new creation in the book of Revelation, tracing the glory of Jesus Christ from start to finish. In each day's reading, there is a key Scripture to look up, a devotional commentary to read, and a helpful summary highlighting the key point and showing how that particular Bible passage points to Jesus. This is a book to treasure that young children will grow into through the years as well as a flexible resource that can be used with children of all ages.



**Prepare Him Room by Marty Machowski** 13 Advent devotionals that celebrate the arrival of Christ in pointing to his work on the cross and looking forward to his return. Includes ideas for advent activities the entire family can join in on, and a special Christmas short story.



**Arnold Ytreeide's Advent Devotionals** A new Advent family devotional from the author of *Jotham's Journey*! Fourth in a set of Advent adventure books for families, *Ishtar's Odyssey* follows the ten-year-old son of a Persian wise man as their caravan follows a star across the desert. Ishtar would just as soon stay in the comfort of the palace, but slowly he learns that there's much to see, do, and learn in this world that can't be experienced in school. He eventually meets Jotham, Bartholomew, and Tabitha as he follows his father and uncles in their search for a newborn king. Arnold Ytreeide's family advent devotionals have become a much-loved Christmas tradition, enjoyed by multiple generations. With over 100,000 in print they include *Jotham's Journey*, *Bartholomew's Passage*, and *Tabitha's Travels*.



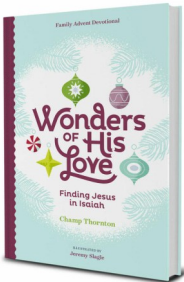
***The Light Before Christmas by Marty Machowski*** This four-week Advent family devotional by best-selling author Marty Machowski combines devotions on the theme of light and darkness with the story of eleven-year-old Mia and her grandmother as they prepare for Christmas. Grandma loves to share her faith, especially at Christmas time, and although she is blind, she can see the light of Jesus shining bright and helps Mia—and children of all ages—to do the same. Every year, Mia loves to spend the month of December with Grandma getting ready for Christmas. This year, they read a special devotional, *The Light Before Christmas*, together. Machowski brings families into their devotional time, sharing the story of Christmas. Through a Bible study of light and darkness, readers will discover how the theme of light weaves its way through the Christmas story and God's plan of salvation. *The Light Before Christmas* contains thirteen devotionals—three for each of the four weeks of Advent and one more for Christmas. Each devotional includes a Scripture for the day, an object lesson, a focus Scripture, a question to discuss as a family, a song to sing together, and a prayer.



***Why Christmas? By Barbara Reaach*** Why do we celebrate Christmas? Most children do not know the true answer to that question or why God sent Jesus to live on earth. *Why Christmas?* is a helpful daily devotional with Scripture reading, memory verse, Christmas carol and questions to direct your child's heart towards God. The readings, which begin on the first day of December, are Biblical, short, and effective. Colorful illustrations illuminate the events of the incarnation. This book will provide parents with the assistance they desire for leading their child to the Christ of Christmas.



***The Way to the Manger by Jeff and Abbey Land*** is a 25-day family Advent devotional that engages families with the biblical truth of Christmas as they wait for the arrival of the Savior on Christmas Day. Sure to become a keepsake that is revisited year after year, it walks through the themes of hope, love, joy, and peace with talking points and activities for families to enjoy together. Features include: 25 family devotions, Memory-maker journaling pages to fill with Advent memories each year, Family activities and crafts, Discussion questions, An Advent wreath guide



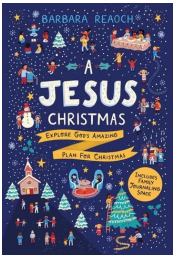
***Wonders of His Love by Champ Thornton*** Advent is the perfect time for families to gather together and celebrate the birth of Jesus. Using pictures of Jesus from Isaiah's prophecies—the Light, the Branch, the Shepherd, and the Savior—brings to life the true meaning of Christmas. Hundreds of years before Jesus was born, God spoke to his people through the prophet Isaiah, promising them a Savior. To communicate God's message, Isaiah used striking, stunning, and surprising imagery—the “wonders” of his love! Isaiah pointed God's people to the future, when one day, through his birth, death, and resurrection, Jesus would deliver his people from sin and sorrow forever. Perfect for busy families with younger children, each week of Advent focuses on one of Isaiah's images and has readings related to the week's theme—Jesus the Light; Jesus the Branch; Jesus the Shepherd; Jesus the Savior—and, on Christmas Day, Jesus the Bread. Each week also includes fun stories, discussion ques-



***The Adventure of Christmas by Ed Drew*** These simple 10-minute family devotions for Advent, with graphic-novel-style illustrations, explore the Gospel accounts of the first Christmas in an engaging way, and will help families keep Christ at the heart of their celebrations. With all the Bible passages and questions already laid out, you can lead these devotions without needing any extra time to prepare, making family devotional time an achievable joy, not an unrealistic burden. There are different sets of questions for 3-4s, 5-7s, 7-12s, teens and even parents, so the whole family can enjoy looking at the Bible together. *There is an accompanying Advent Calendar.*

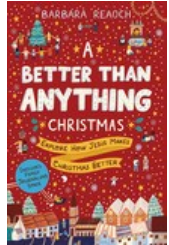


*Longing for Christmas*, an Advent devotional from Rooted Ministry, helps teenagers recapture the joy and wonder of Christmas by unwrapping God's promises throughout Scripture. Do you remember what it felt like to be a little kid at Christmastime? There's nothing quite like the anticipation of Christmas morning. But the holiday can lose its wonder as we wake up to the many hard things going on in our lives and in the world. The loss we feel over our childhood experience points to a deeper longing inside all of us—for everything sad to be undone and for us to live together with God in perfect joy. *Longing for Christmas* looks at twenty-five promises God made and fulfilled in the coming of Jesus. As we explore the way God has kept his promises, we can be encouraged that ALL of the longing we feel—for a better world and for things to be made right—will be fully met in Jesus.

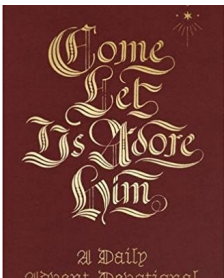


*[A Jesus Christmas: Explore God's Amazing Plan for Christmas](#) by Barbara Reaoch*

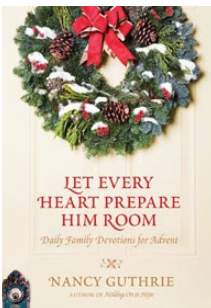
Get your family excited with this advent devotional offering a fresh way to prepare for Christmas. Right from the beginning, the serpent lied to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden - and he has been lying ever since. But right from the beginning, God told us his amazing plan to send Jesus. Each day's devotional looks at one of the serpent's lies from Genesis 3, and then shows how the glorious truth of Christmas beats it every time! God prepared the world for Jesus and he will prepare your heart to celebrate this Christmas in a new and lasting way.



*[A Better Than Anything Christmas](#) by Barbara Reaoch* These daily devotions in the Gospels give a thorough investigation of why Jesus came. In the lead-up to Christmas, families will explore 25 reasons why Jesus came, and they will see that what Jesus gives us is better than anything else we could wish for. Each day there is a passage to read together, questions to think about, an explanation, and a prayer. There are also age-appropriate application questions, some for younger children and some for older children, as well as journalling space so that each family member can write or draw their own response to what God has shown them.



*[Come Let Us Adore Him](#) by Paul David Tripp* The wonder and awe of the Christmas season can easily get overshadowed by lights, tinsel, bows, and paper—not to mention last-minute trips to the mall and visits to the in-laws. In all the hustle and bustle, we often lose sight of what's most important. This book of daily readings for the month of December by best-selling author Paul David Tripp will help you slow down, prepare your heart, and focus on what matters most: adoring our Savior, Jesus.



*[Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room](#) by Nancy Guthrie* Before you sing "Joy to the World" this Christmas, take time to "tune" the hearts of your loved ones during Advent! Featuring family-friendly devotions for every day in December, Guthrie's thoughtful guide includes Christ-centered Yuletide meditations, beloved carol lyrics, prayers, and discussion questions designed to merrily engage kids aged 5 to 18.