

SIMPLE WAYS TO MAKE THE MOST OF ADVENT

- › Hang your **Bible promise stars** from Lesson 4 in a prominent place and pray to grow in trust of God and His Word.
- › Decorate your tree during Advent, but **don't turn on the tree lights until Jesus is born**; that is, until the light of the world is in our midst!
- › **Wait to decorate for Christmas until the last days of Advent.** Or decorate a little each week, waiting to decorate the tree until the last moment.
- › **Place candles in all of your windows.** Let your lights say welcome to all who are without the things of this world that your family has. As you light them remind your family that Christ, the light of the world, is coming soon.
- › Make every Sunday night during Advent a **family story time.** Begin a collection of good Christmas stories that teach Christian values. Make it extra special by lighting a fire in the fireplace (if you have one), making popcorn, and cuddling on the couch.
- › Choose a family member (keeping your chosen person a secret if you can) and become his **“secret saint”** by doing hidden good deeds for him during this special time of the year, e.g., make his bed, leave him a little note of love and cheer, do a chore for him, or leave a chocolate kiss on his pillow.
- › As a family, **pray for everyone on your Christmas card list**, as well as those who send you cards.
- › After you light your tree on Christmas Eve, read aloud the Christmas story as found in **Luke's Gospel.**

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Advent Blessing and Prayer

The purpose of this activity is to pray in a special way to prepare your family's hearts to receive Christ at Christmas.

Advent Manger Sacrifice Activity

The goal of this activity is to turn little sacrifices you make each day during Advent into a soft bed of love for the Baby Jesus.

Birthday Party for Jesus

The goal of this activity is to bring Jesus' birth to the heart of your home on Christmas Eve.