

"Teachable Moments"

OBJECTIVE: The fourth week of ADVENT will bring the lighting of the last purple candle. Scripture and a carol about the PEACE that GOD sends to the earth through the Messiah, the anointed/promised One will provide further reflection and preparation. The birth of JESUS is neccesary, His salvation is essential and one day He will bring PEACE to the earth when He reigns as King of Kings.

- Simple Truths: Help your children focus on these truths: GOD is the only source for PEACE, He has a purpose for us and He wants us to experience His PEACE now and for ever.
- Activity Pages: The Parent pages (Simple Truths, Suggested Advent Activities) will help you navigate these learning times, but the actual activity pages for your children contain alot of information as well. Remember, this is just a beginning; in your reading of God's Word you will no doubt find additional info to include in future years. Time to color another candle in the advent wreath from the first advent lesson, and add another page (PEACE) and another purple chain to the wall-art.
 - #1 PRAYER TIME
 - STORY TIME: The Prince is Born
 - #2 The Message from the Angels
 - #3 Names of the Promised One
 - \$4 I Wonder --questions to ponder & discuss
- Enjoy singing together: It Came Upon the

Midwight Clear Memory Verse: Isaiah 9:6 As you notice, the focus of the names of God's Son is Prince of Peace, but a great memory activity for your children would be to learn all the names given to the Son.

(Permission granted to make extra copies of coloring or game pages for other children in the family as needed.)

Simple Truths

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GOD has a plan for PEACE on Earth

Why does the world need PEACE?

- --Remember that the entrance of sin into the world and all of GOD'S creation has continued to bring troubles and sorrows that result in NO PEACE.
- --Man needs rescue from this type of environment.

"The people **walking in darkness** have seen a great light; on those living in the **land of the shadow of death** a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

How does this PEACE come to earth?

- --GOD'S PEACE came to us **in the person of JESUS**, our Messiah.
- --The angels shared this GOOD NEWS with the shepherds concerning Christ, the Savior--as a baby.

"Suddenly a great comany of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth **peace to men** on whom his favor rests." (Luke 2:13 & 14)

GOD'S Plan has a Purpose

How can this baby bring us PEACE?

--God wanted Jesus to be born into the human race, to live, die in our place, be resurrected, return to the Father in heaven and one day rule as King of Kings on the earth eternally.

"...For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth..." John 18:37 (NASB)

" For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16 - NIV)

--Jesus is the only one who can do for us what we need.

"I am the way, and the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me." John 14:6 (NASB)

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I can have PEACE in my life.

How can I have GOD'S PEACE in my life?

--I can have peace with God by becoming one of His children.

"Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:11 & 12)

--When we become GOD'S children, He brings great PEACE into our hearts by knowing that the debt of my sin has been paid for by Jesus' death on the cross.

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have **peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1& 47)

--My heart and mind need to be controlled by the Holy Spirit that is within me when I am saved.

"The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace." (Romans 8:6)

JESUS brings us PEACE

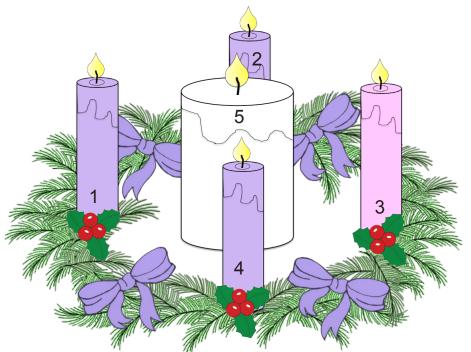
God planned in the **PAST** We need God for our **PRESENT** We can have a certain **FUTURE**



Activity	Page #3	answers
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Suggested Activities for the ADVENT Celebration



The ADVENT WREATH is a circular garland of evergreens representing **eternity**. On that wreath are 4 or 5 candles typically arranged. Each represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the coming of the LORD, Jesus Christ. One candle is lit on each Sunday of advent, and the 5th candle on Christmas Eve.

With each week of ADVENT, you and your family can focus on the celebration elements mentioned here. Be as creative as you wish by adding other carols to sing, additional scriptures appropriate to the event represented by each candle, or invite another family to share with you in the celebration. The following lessons will focus on the subsequent candles and together you can prepare your hearts and minds to enjoy the true "Reason for the Season." May GOD be glorified!

Order of Candles

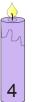
Sunday, NOV. 29: **"Prophet's Candle"** Focus: HOPE Scripture: Jere. 23:5 & 6; Isaiah 9:2,6 & 7 Carol to sing: *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Sunday, DEC. 5: **"Bethlehem's Candle"** Focus: LOVE

Scripture: Luke 1:26-31: Luke 2:1,3-5; Matt.1:20-24; Micah 5:2; Gal. 4:4; I John 4:10

Carol to sing: O Come to My Heart O Little Town of Bethlehem

Sunday, DEC. 12: **"Shepherd's Candle"** Focus: JOY Scripture: Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 2:8-20; Matt. 2:10-11 Carol to sing: *Joy to the World*



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Sunday, DEC. 19: **"Angel's Candle"** Focus: PEACE Scripture: Isaiah 9:6 & 7; Luke 2:8-14 Carol to sing: *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

7	Christmas Eve - DEC. 24: "Christ's Candle"
	Focus: LIGHT & PURITY
	Scripture:

5 Song to sing:

This page will appear in subsequent lessons with information on songs and scripture, as well as activities for the rest of the candles of ADVENT.

Activity Page #1

REMEMBER, TRUTH SEEKERS-----Ask God to guide your study and help you learn. Prayer Time Prayer Time The Prince is Born

> Preparing our Hearts for the Christmas Season

Do you ever get excited when a new baby is born into the family? In our last lesson we learned about the great JOY that GOD gave to Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the wisemen, and to all of us, of course,---just because He came.

STORY TIME -

Let's go back to the story of the angels that came to the shepherds at the time this baby was born in the city of Bethlehem. Just imagine. . .it was *dark* out in the fields and the shepherds were *alone* with their sheep. It was probably very quiet except for some shepherd's talk and the sound of sheep every now and then.

In this darkness, suddenly the sky lit up with a bright light; and an angel of the Lord appeared. The first thing the angel said was "Do not be afraid!" The angel knew they would be afraid; would you? He told them about the baby born in Bethlehem--a Savior. This baby was not only a Savior; He was a Prince. Wow!---this baby must be very special.

Remember, more angels appeared and began praising God and spoke of the "Good News"-- peace on earth for people who are pleasing to God. This new baby they spoke and sang about must be the Prince of Peace, the very Son of God, sent to earth as God had promised.

