## **ADVENT FAMILY RESOURCE KITS**



Advent literally means "arrival" or "coming" and is a special celebration for Christians during the Christmas season. During Advent, we purpose to set our hearts and minds to **remember** Christ's first coming and **anticipate** His second coming.

At TCBC, we want to resource your family to celebrate and contemplate King Jesus together this month. We hope this kit will be a starting place for you to teach and talk about God's big truths, to look outside yourselves, and to make much of Jesus this Christmas!

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

**Countdown:** "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." - Isaiah 9:6

Hang the countdown with the magnet on your refrigerator or some place that you will see it every day. As you mark off the days to Christmas, be intentional not just to look forward to family, presents, or food. Pause and recognize that Christmas is about Jesus. We remember that He came to anticipate that He is coming again.

**Ornaments:** "And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." - Acts 10:1-11

With the small ornaments and string, hang them up all throughout your home in places you will regularly see them: on doorknobs, bedposts, hairbrush handles, the steering wheel of your car, etc. Every time you see a tiny ornament, pray and thank God that Jesus has come and that He is coming again.

**Puzzle:** "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." - Ephesians 2:10

Gather the family and put together an advent puzzle. As you put each piece in place, name one way your family can remember Christ's first coming and anticipate His second coming this Advent.

**Cookie Cutters:** "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." - Acts 1:8

Go and share! Invite some friends into your home to bake cookies using the cookie cutters provided. Leverage the time as an opportunity to begin a gospel conversation this Advent.

**Piggy Bank:** "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart... God loves a cheerful giver." - 2 Corinthians 9:7 Give to go! Make your most significant Christmas gift a Kingdom gift. Use the piggy bank to collect money throughout the month for Christmas Give, including your extra change! Bring it to church by the end of the month for the Christmas Give offering.

**Reading Plan + FDP Devotions & Workouts:** "You shall teach them diligently to your children..." - Deuteronomy 6:7 Every day as a family, read the Scripture and use the ponder, pray, or practice point to facilitate conversations around God's Word. Every week, go deeper in the Word with each week's FDP Big Truth and Bible passage with your family.

**Missional Christmas Card:** Be purposeful with your Christmas cards! Use the included template, attach a picture of your family, and send it to someone who you would like to invite to church on Christmas Eve.

## WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

December is busy. Purpose to prioritize gathering with your church family and being in groups on Sunday mornings and coming to Equip, Aim, and Launch on Wednesday nights. A couple of things to note about our schedule are below:

December 3 - Family Meal

December 17 - AimX + LaunchX

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service (younger preschool groups only)

December 28 – Sunday Gatherings @ 9:30 & 11:00 (preschool groups only)

December 31 - No Wednesday Night Programming