



D6 EveryDay

Advent Kit

The Names of Jesus

This is family discipleship—welcoming the Christ Child by learning more about Him!

It's easy to get so caught up in the extra events and expectations of the Christmas season that we neglect to keep its true meaning before us. The *D6 EveryDay Advent Kit* was created to help families anticipate the celebration of Jesus' birth.

Whether you have children at home or not, you will value the daily Scripture reading and short devotions about one of the names for Jesus. Use the *Keep Talking* feature to continue discussing the questions provided and others that you think of. (The first question from each day's devotion is particularly aimed at children.) You'll find a family activity for every day—whether it is playing a game together, gathering old toys, or reading through Christmas cards. You'll also find a simple ornament to make together to remind you of the name of Jesus you studied that day.

We give you many ideas to consider. Some will work for your family and others may not. Some days your schedule may allow for all of the ideas to be explored, and other days you may only be able to do one of the suggestions. We want you to choose what works best for your family's schedule and avoid feeling pressure to do it all. If all you do is reveal the name of Jesus for a given day and read the short devotional thought, you have succeeded in helping your family focus on Jesus and the reason for this season!


Getting Started:

1. Fold each card from top to bottom and then from left to right. The number should be on the front and the puzzle piece portion should be on the back. The cards are perforated for ease of folding but they may come apart if handled a lot. If that happens they can be stacked together for display or hinged together again with tape.
2. Choose your method of displaying the cards.
 - Stack them in order in a basket or gift box
 - Hang them as a banner along the staircase
 - Tuck them into the tree until opened
 - Hide a card each day for family members to discover
 - String them up on a wall
 - Use a Christmas card holder to display them
3. On the first day of Advent (December 1) start with number one. Reveal the name for Jesus and read the Scripture and devotional thought for the day. Then choose from the other suggestions provided on the card.
 - Notice the *Carol Connection* lyrics chosen for each name and sing the song together.
 - Dig a little deeper together by using the discussion questions provided on the *Keep Talking* card.
 - Enjoy the family activity provided. These can be done on the assigned day or whenever it fits best for you.

- Make one of the suggested ornaments as a reminder for the name of Jesus being discussed. Later these ornaments can be used as memory cues when recalling the names learned. Most ornaments require only fifteen minutes of time using items found around the house. Many are simple enough that a picture is all the instruction you need, but a full list of instructions and a supply list are provided at D6EveryDay.com/Advent (but really, you probably already have them).
4. Once you have opened the day's card and explored the name for Jesus, fold it back so the name is displayed instead of the number.
 5. After the cards have all been opened, complete a floor puzzle with the picture card panel. (Hint: See the front cover of the Advent Kit.)

Other Ideas

- Your children can practice putting the numbers in order or arranging the names for Jesus in alphabetical order.
- Your children can make extra ornaments for a friend or family member.
- You may only want to get out the crafting supplies once or twice! So plan ahead for craft days, capitalizing on weekends and school holidays.
- Be on the lookout for other names of Christ that you hear this holiday season.
- Sing or play the songs in the daily *Carol Connection* (the Christmas carol tied with each daily devotion). Listen carefully to other Christmas carols through the season and see if your family recognizes some of the names of Christ they include.
- You can host a celebration for neighborhood children to try some of the activities, games, and crafts and share the true story of Christmas.
- You can video chat with your nieces, nephews, or grandchildren and make a craft together. Or your children can be the teachers, sharing with their grandparents.
- Repeat the activities that your family enjoys. Young children learn by repetition and will love playing some games again.
- Use some of the ornaments as name card holders at Christmas celebrations and challenge your guests to identify their significance.
- These names for Christ are not secret identities! Share them often with others. Point them to Jesus, God's best gift to us.

 **We wish we could have a small window into your homes for this Advent season. We would be blessed watching your family create intentional memories to grow your faith and enjoy the celebration of the birth of Jesus.**

These numbers help you keep order in the midst of all the fun.

You'll have to wait until all 25 names are revealed to put this puzzle together.



Be sure to notice the *Carol Connection*. It's a great way to see the names referenced in familiar songs.

This panel gives Scripture references and a devotion for each name.

This panel is reserved for the name being introduced each day.

Use these questions to help you *Keep Talking* about the name of Jesus.

Have fun with the family activities provided for each day.

Here's the source for the Christmas Carol Connection. Did you guess it?

Keep Talking

How did God feel about His Son, Jesus? Look at His words in Luke 3:22 and 9:35.

Who made the claim that Jesus was God's Son? You might be surprised at how many different people said it. Sample a few of them: John 11:27; Mark 15:39; Mark 3:11; Mark 5:7; Matthew 14:33; John 1:49; Acts 9:20; John 20:31. Why is this important?

Why is the virgin birth of Jesus Christ important?

🎵 "Silent Night"

If My Father Were the King of ...

Ask each family member to fill in the blanks for this question: "If my father were the king of _____, I would ask for _____." You could give sample ideas: "If my father were the king of Disney World, I would ask to be first in line at every ride." Jesus was the Son of God. His Father was the King of Everything. Even though He was the Son of the greatest King ever, Jesus asked only to do what pleased the Father.

How do the children in your family look and act like their parents? Ask for ideas, or compare pictures at similar ages. Though we really can't explain it or understand it, Jesus did not merely resemble God the Father; He was one with God. When people saw Jesus, they saw His Father too (John 14:7). When other people see you, do you remind them of your Heavenly Father?

Make a Memory



Glue a clear punch cup to a construction paper circle to make this ornament.

We used a peg doll, but you could use a clothes pin or roll up some cotton for Baby Jesus.



Tuck a circle face into a folded paper plate and wrap up "swaddling clothes".

Making the ornaments together is a great way to make memories and help you remember the names you are learning.

Don't worry—these are easy to do and don't take forever!

Find extra ideas and alternative ornament designs here.



The book of Revelation circles back to that description of Jesus in the last chapter of Revelation (22:16). It refers to Christ as the Morning Star that heralds a new day. From beginning to end, the Word of God points to Jesus. He's the Star of the story of redemption!

Balaam's donkey was smarter than he was. But when the Spirit of the Lord came upon Balaam, he prophesied about the Star who would come from the line of Jacob—One who would give light in the darkness. (You can read the whole story in Numbers 22–24.) We know the pinprick of light we see in the night sky is truly a powerful, burning sun in another solar system. We cannot see it in fullness because of the distance.

NUMBERS 24:17; REVELATION 22:16
Wondrous Star, Lend thy light.

The Star



Keep Talking

What do you like about the stars at night? How can they remind you of Jesus?

Daniel's prophecy (Daniel 12:3) also speaks about those who share the good news about Jesus as stars. How can you shine brightly in a dark world?

Do you think the symbolism of the star had anything to do with the wise men who followed a star to Bethlehem?



"Silent Night"



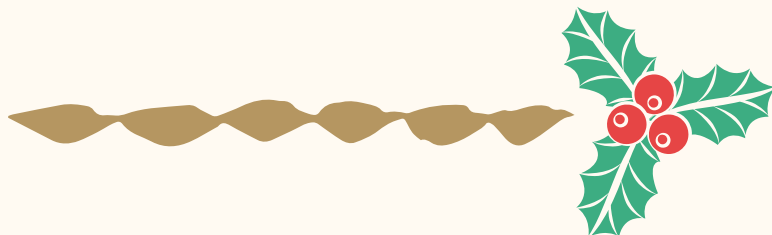
Look for It

Create a display of various small household items. A cookie sheet or table top would work well. Choose items such as a pen, paperclip, coin, small toy, apple, key, bread tie, straw, rubber band, cracker, etc. While everyone else leaves the room or covers their eyes, one item from the tray is taken away and concealed from the others. Then the group is encouraged to look again at the display and look for the missing item. You could also change it up and allow items to be added in to the display instead of taken away.

You have to pay attention to play this game. You have to concentrate to remember what was there before and what is different.

When baby Jesus was born, God put a very special star in place to show the way to His Son. *The Star* is one of the names given to Jesus and it reminds us to always look for Him. He is *The Star* of God's story.

Make a Memory



Cut out a star from a cereal box or paper plate and gather some yarn or Christmas ribbon, a hole punch, and some glue. Younger family members can lace the outline of the star, and older ones can do a full wrap. Use these as ornaments or gift tags and be reminded of Jesus: The Star.

