

Christmas Eve

The Plan

Christmas Eve

Family Discipleship Time

Set aside 30 minutes tonight to read scriptures together and reflect upon and discuss the material together. If you have Advent Candles, please designate someone to light all 4 candles, and then after reading the scripture below have someone light the center (5th) Christ candle.

Isaiah 53:1–10 (NLT)

Who has believed our message?

To whom has the Lord revealed his powerful arm?

My servant grew up in the Lord's presence like a tender green shoot, like a root in dry ground.

There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to attract us to him.

He was despised and rejected— a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief.

We turned our backs on him and looked the other way.

He was despised, and we did not care.

Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins!

But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins.

He was beaten so we could be whole.

He was whipped so we could be healed.

All of us, like sheep, have strayed away.

We have left God's paths to follow our own.

Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all.

He was oppressed and treated harshly, yet he never said a word.

He was led like a lamb to the slaughter.

*And as a sheep is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth.
Unjustly condemned, he was led away.
No one cared that he died without descendants, that his life was cut short
in midstream.*

*But he was struck down for the rebellion of my people.
He had done no wrong and had never deceived anyone.
But he was buried like a criminal; he was put in a rich man's grave.*

*But it was the Lord's good plan to crush him and cause him grief.
Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants.
He will enjoy a long life, and the Lord's good plan will prosper in his hands.*

Light Christ Candle

Focus

What do you think these verses mean? Do you remember what we talked about in Advent Week 1, that the world was broken and needed a Rescuer? So what was God's plan to fix everything for us?

Poem to Read

For small baby Jesus would grow to man,
Would live without sin, and would follow God's plan.
He would die on a cross but would rise three days later
To trade all my sin for something much greater.

And that's the true story of how Christ was born.
We have so much to celebrate on Christmas morn.
For God loved the world so much that He gave
His only dear Son, for each person to save.

By trusting in Jesus, our sins are forgiven
We have life eternal, the promise of heaven.
And all because Jesus was born on that night.
The High King of Heaven came to make all things right.



Song

Sing this song together as a family

[Silent Night, Holy Night](#)

Prayer

Discuss what you should pray about, and which family member should pray.

Family Activities

Give Back: Do the children have money? If not, give them some as a gift, and ask if they would be willing to give it to someone else. Collect all the treasure and put it in an envelope with an anonymous note of encouragement. Now, have the children decide who should receive the money.

On the way home from Christmas Eve service or before bedtime drive to that home, say a prayer for them, and place the gift at their door. As you drive home talk about how God must have been excited and sad to send His great Gift (Jesus) to earth.

Communal Surprise: Have everyone open one gift that you have prepared. (Make sure to include yourselves.)

Everyone gets new pajamas to wear on Christmas Eve!

Or choose a surprise that will commemorate this Advent, and everyone gets a version of the same gift.



All resources with this icon can be found by going to the web page