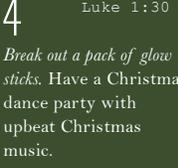


Gather around every day this month to read the story of how God sent joy to the world with the gift of His Son, Jesus. While you're at it, spread some joy of your own as a family!

ADVENT 2021: THE PARENT CUE FAMILY CALENDAR

3  What's stressing you out right now? *Share with each other.* Then pray that God would give you His peace this season. Luke 1:29-30

4  Luke 1:30
Break out a pack of glow sticks. Have a Christmas dance party with upbeat Christmas music.

1  Light a candle at dinner time or bed time. Share your favorite Christmas tradition that you *don't want to miss* doing together this year. Luke 1:27

2  Choose 1-3 relatives or family friends. Record a short selfie video Christmas greeting as a family and text it to them. Luke 1:26-28

6  God's plan for Christmas surprised everyone. If you could plan Christmas this year *exactly* the way you wanted, what would it look like? Luke 1:32

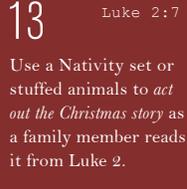
7  *Taking care of a new baby is a big challenge!* Take a meal to a family you know with a new baby, or pick up diapers to donate to a local shelter or food bank. Luke 1:34-36

8  *Bake a batch of Christmas cookies* (no shame if you grab a tube from the grocery fridge section!) Share a snack together *and* take some of them to a neighbor. Luke 1:38

9  Create a playlist of everyone's favorite Christmas carols and worship songs. Play it while on the go all week—and *don't be afraid to sing along!* Luke 1:39-56

11  Take a trip around the neighborhood or other areas of your town or city to check out the *amazing Christmas lights* along the way. Luke 2:5

12  Using Google Maps, take a look at the modern-day streets of Bethlehem. *What do you think Bethlehem was like when Jesus was born?* Luke 2:6

13  Luke 2:7
Use a Nativity set or stuffed animals to *act out the Christmas story* as a family member reads it from Luke 2.

14  Roast marshmallows for s'mores while looking up at the stars—the *same ones* the shepherds saw! (Or make them in the oven and eat them by candlelight.) Luke 2:8

15  Luke 2:9
Tell your child how you shared the good news of their birth (or arrival in your family) with others.

10  Luke 2:1-4
Parents, share about a particularly *special or unique* Christmas that you experienced as a child.

17  Make Christmas cards for anyone in your life who might need a little joy today, from the mailperson to the crosswalk guard. *You could even add a gift card or small treat.* Luke 2:10

18  Try making "real" hot cocoa with cocoa powder, melted chocolate, sugar, and milk of your choice. While the cocoa heats, share with each other something big you are waiting for right now. Luke 2:11

19  Choose a few small gifts to *unwrap early.* Celebrate together that God gave us such an amazing and unexpected gift as Jesus! Luke 2:12

20  Choose or make a special ornament for your Christmas tree that represents *something good* God has done for your family this year. Luke 2:13-14

22  Share your favorite Christmas movies with each other. Then pick one (or two!), *make some popcorn,* and settle down in Christmas PJs for a Christmas movie marathon. Luke 2:17-18

23  What's the biggest thing you want to thank God for right now? (In addition to Jesus!) *Share with each other and give God a giant round of applause.* Luke 2:20

25  Before opening gifts, take *time to read* the story of God's greatest gift of all time, Jesus, in Luke 1:26-2:21.

21  Grab a gingerbread man or other Christmas cookie for each member of the family to place on their forehead. Race to see who can shimmy the cookie down and bite it first before it drops. *No hands!* Luke 2:15-16

24  Jesus' name means "the Lord is salvation"! Share with each other what your name means. (Google is your friend for this.) Then *share the story* behind your name if you know it. Luke 2:21