

# ADVENT

The Liturgical Year with Kids



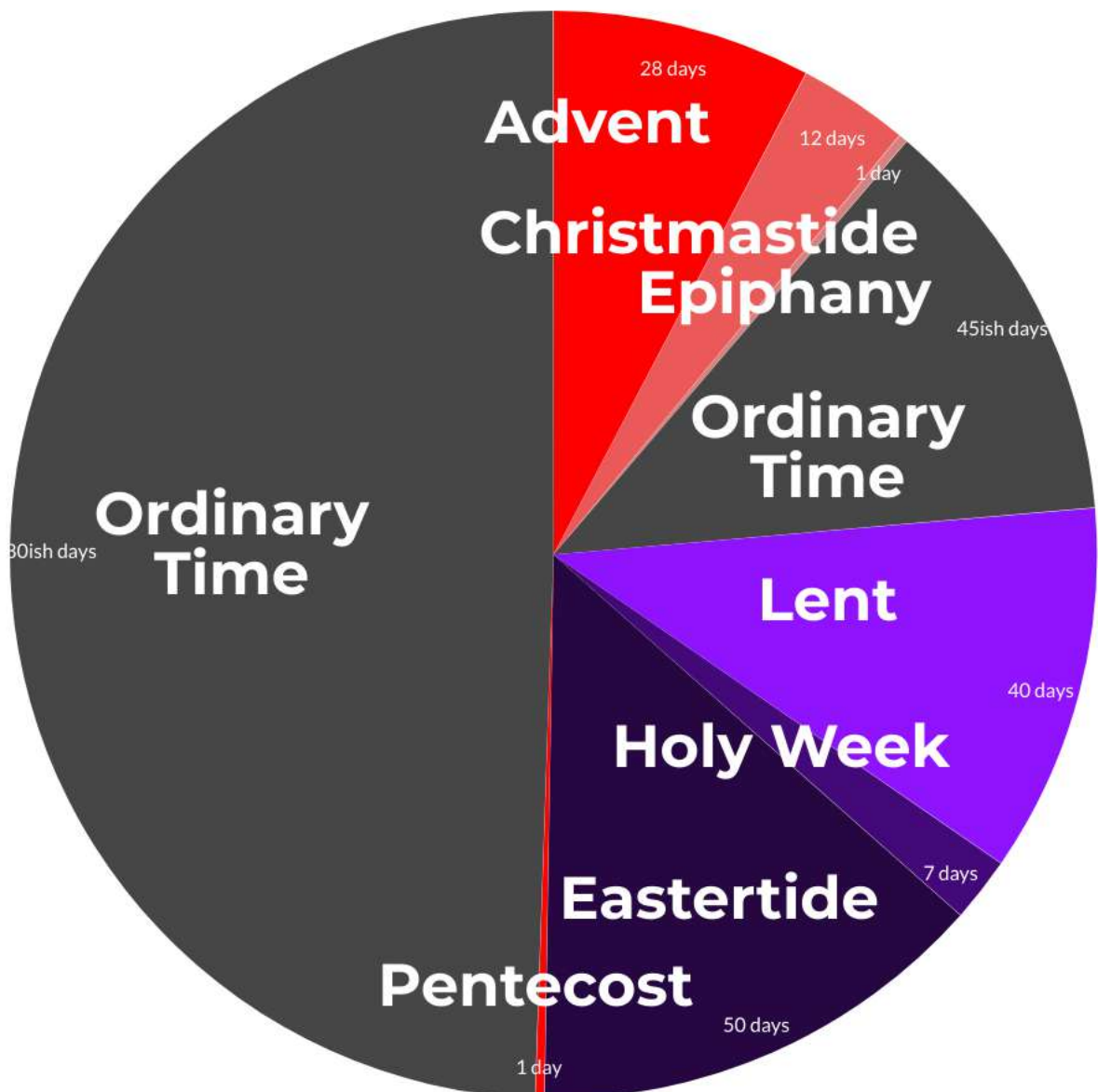
WAITING FOR CHRIST  
IN CHRISTMAS

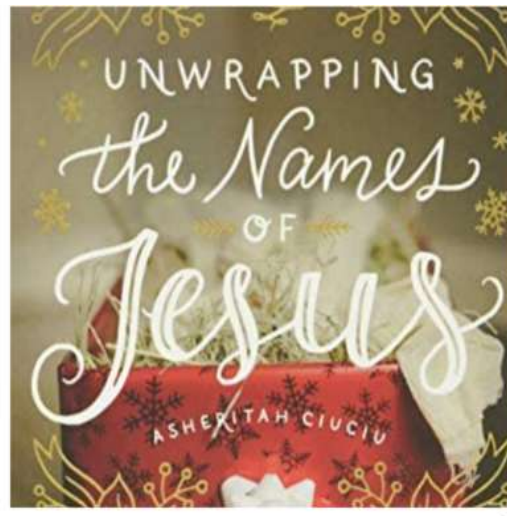
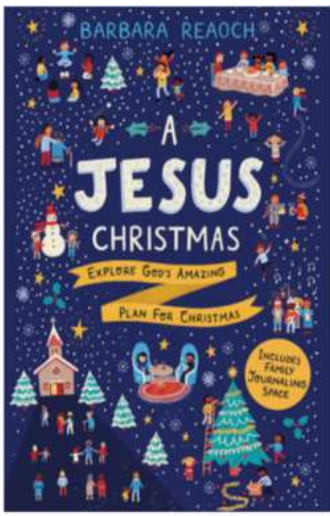
## Note from Rachel:

Many of you are probably familiar with the idea of Advent, and some of you with Lent. It is all part of a Christian liturgical calendar that I, coming from a nonliturgical tradition, was mostly unaware of. The general idea is that **Advent is getting ready and leading us up to Christmas, or waiting for Christ in Christmas. Lent is getting ready and leading us up to Easter, or walking with Christ to Easter.**

When we were in Brazil, in a new culture and community, and away from our family during holidays, we needed to be intentional and figure out what we wanted to do- or it wouldn't happen. It was fun to try different things out, and find what really fit us and our growing family. I've put together the best things we liked in this book: **for us and for you.** There is no right or wrong way to celebrate Advent and Lent, nor do you have to celebrate at all. I've found that holidays are better spread out and shared, rather than squished into one day with too many expectations placed upon it. **I appreciate Advent and Lent to have the time to sink my teeth into the true meaning of Christmas and Easter, and to share it and invite others into it with me.**

### Christian Liturgical Calendar

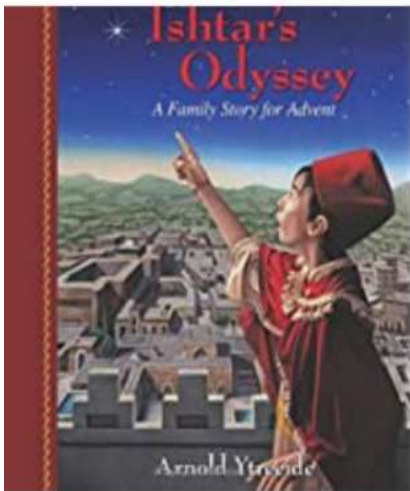
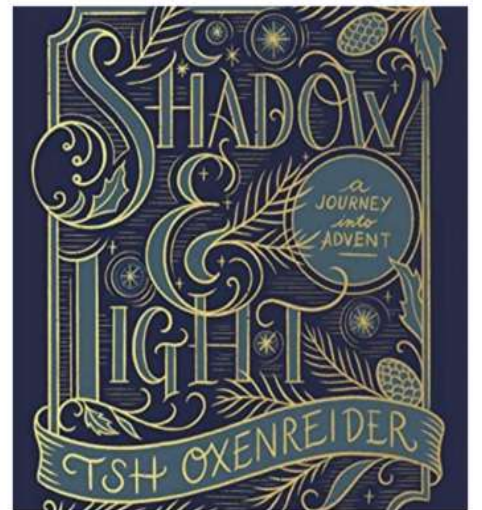




Best  
**Advent**

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Devotionals



Other books I've found:

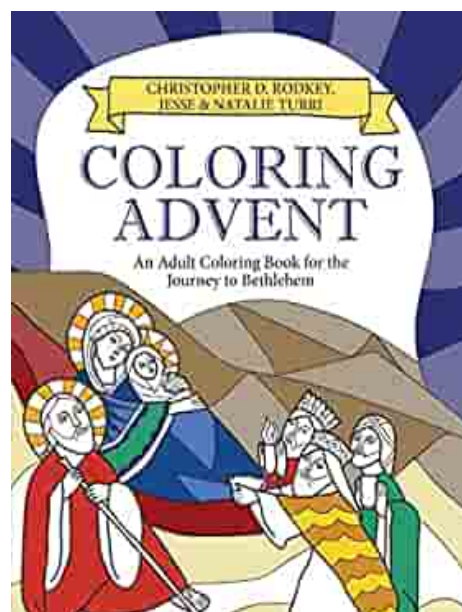
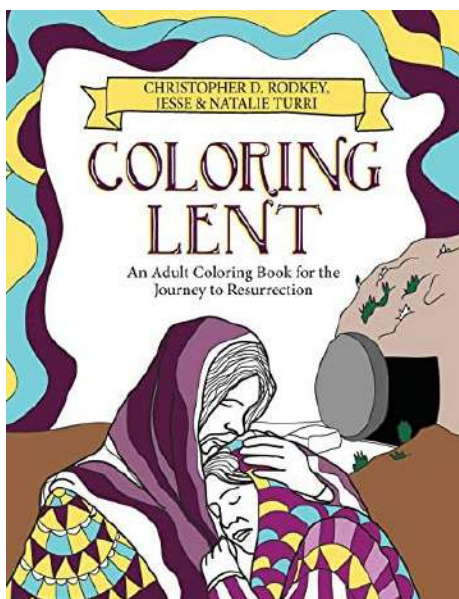


# COLORING LENT + ADVENT

Idea for the littles

When my girls were too little to do much for Lent and Advent, we colored. I loved the adult journey coloring books, with minimal reading and a coloring picture for each day. The Easter and Christmas stories have too many complicated parts to try to cover in one sitting with littles!

If you don't want to spend the money, there are a lot of free coloring sheets online, or just buy a Christmas (25 pages for Advent) or Easter (47 pages for Lent) coloring book.



Check out our coloring adventures at our Five Minutes of Fergie YouTube channel, with the video called "Lent and Birthdays"

# the Jesus Storybook Bible

Every story whispers his name

sallylloyd-jones.com



WRITTEN BY SALLY LLOYD-JONES & ILLUSTRATED BY JAGO

Storybook  
Bible Lent  
& Advent  
Guides

**Our favorite Bible storybook**

On her website each year, Sally Lloyd Jones puts together a Lent guide, and an Advent guide. They are free, easy to print out, and easy to use with the storybook. You make a paperchain, and tear off one each day, reading that Bible story, which leads to the Christmas or Easter story.

the

BIBLE

PROJECT



Holy Week  
Playlist



Passover  
Podcast



The  
Gospels  
Videos



Pentecost  
and Acts  
Videos

• ADVENT GUIDE •

[BibleProject.com/guides/advent](https://bibleproject.com/guides/advent)

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/category/advent-series/>

If you go on their YouTube channel, you can find the playlists and videos, and if you go to their website you can find the podcast.

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## LENT RESOURCES



# LENT & ADVENT

## COUNTDOWN

## CALENDAR



### Book Countdown

Once you get 25 Christmas books, or 47 Easter books (good luck), this is super fun!



### Pocket Countdown

What we did! Double up the days for Lent (1 is also 25, 2 is also 26...

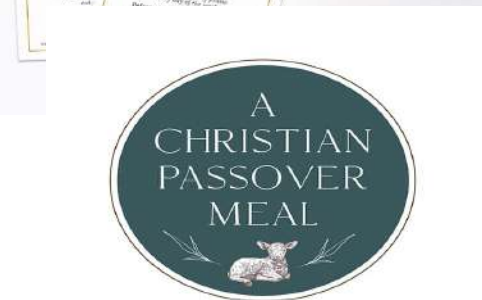
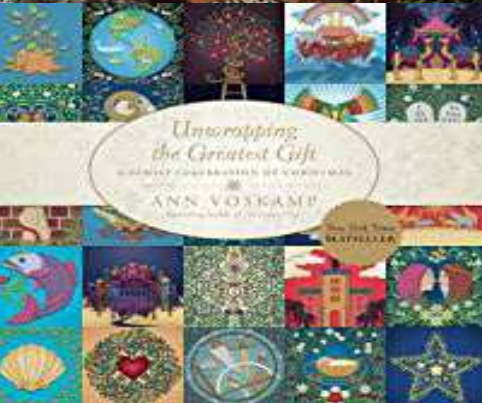
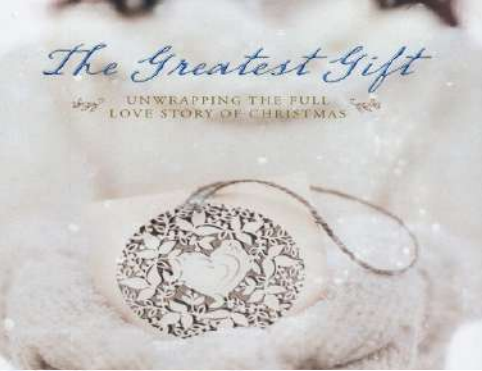


### Egg Countdown

Cheap containers for each day with plastic eggs- you can put in candy or instruction note for activities

### Other countdown ideas:

Check out our calendar adventures at our YouTube channel, Five Minutes of Fergie, the video called "Week 1 of Social Distancing in Brazil" (3.40 minutes in)



Ann Voskamp has plenty of lovely resources to buy: I love the candle countdown (for Advent, then you can buy an extra attachment for Lent as well). Her Advent books are spectacular. But I really love her free resources! Here are my favorites:

- Trail to the Tree
- Easter Devotional
- Sticky Notes Lent
- Holy Week Pilgrimage
- Lent Journaling Calendar
- Easter Grace Garden
- Christian Passover Meal
- A Lent to Repent and Refresh Cards
  
- The Night before Advent Printable kit
- Unwrap Coloring ornaments
- Stress Free Holiday
- Advent Greeting Cards

And much more!

## Ann Voskamp Lent & Advent Resources

Go to [Annvoskamp.com](http://Annvoskamp.com), and the subscribe button at the top. Sign up. You should get to [Annvoskamp.com/sticky-notes](http://Annvoskamp.com/sticky-notes). Choose the "free tools" in the drop down menu, scroll through until you find the free resources!



# TREES



## CHRISTMAS

This is a picture of our Christmas tree in 2017, while in Brazil. Some other ideas we've loved is doing the Name of God ornaments.



## EASTER

This is our Easter tree--I've seen some people do a "Jesse Tree," Of Jesus' ancestors. My mom does an Easter tree with hot cross buns and bags of grapes for Easter breakfast.

## OTHER IDEAS:

Watch YouTube: Five Minutes of Fergie, video called "Getting ready for Christmas in Brazil"



*I've written about how Pinterest is a tool for missionaries (on my Mission Monday blog), And it is a great tool for planning out great Advents and Lents. Check out my boards "Christmas and Advent" and "Easter and Lent" for over a hundred ideas. Literally.*

**Check it out**

[Pinterest.com/rwinzeler](https://Pinterest.com/rwinzeler)

## 25 Simple Daily Ideas for Advent

1. Begin your Christmas list of who/what you will give
2. Begin Christmas decorations
3. Review your goals from the current year—how are you doing?
4. Go over your own family genealogy
5. Go over Jesus' genealogy in Matthew and Luke
6. Put together a family Christmas letter to give out
7. Sit around with eggnog/hot chocolate and share stories of how God has provided this year
8. Read the "Three Trees" book (or another Christmas book)
9. Study Christmas traditions around the world
10. Study Jewish traditions and Holidays
11. Read 1/3 of the "Best Christmas Pageant Ever"
12. Read 1/3 of the "Best Christmas Pageant Ever"
13. Read 1/3 of the "Best Christmas Pageant Ever"
14. Evening with candles/fireplace. Have a candle lit every day until Christmas
15. Have an evening of worship
16. Have an evening of Christmas music
17. Read "The Gift of the Magi"
18. Find catalogs that let you send Christmas presents to people around the world (Like World Vision, GFA...)
19. Watch "It's a Wonderful Life"
20. Watch "Miracle of 34th Street"
21. Plan all the special food you want for Christmas and New Years. Start making Christmas cookies
22. Watch "A Charlie Brown Christmas"
23. Watch "The Grinch who stole Christmas"
24. Christmas Eve! Watch "Muppet Christmas Carol, open one present each, sleep in front of the tree, attend a Christmas Eve service
25. Read the Christmas story



# ADVENT

Waiting for  
Christ

- **November 28 Nations Blessed:** Genesis 12:3, Acts 3:25–26
- **November 29 God's Covenant with Isaac and Jacob:** Genesis 17:19, 28:14, Romans 9:7, Luke 3:34
- **November 30 Ruling through Judah and David:** Genesis 49:10, 2 Samuel 7:12–13, Luke 3:33, Matthew 1:1
- **December 1 From a Virgin/called Immanuel:** Isaiah 7:14, Luke 1:35
- **December 2 Born in Bethlehem:** Micah 5:2, Matthew 2:4–6
- **December 3 Going to Egypt:** Hosea 11:1, Matthew 2:14–15
- **December 4 Destroy the devil's work:** Genesis 3:15, 1 John 3:8

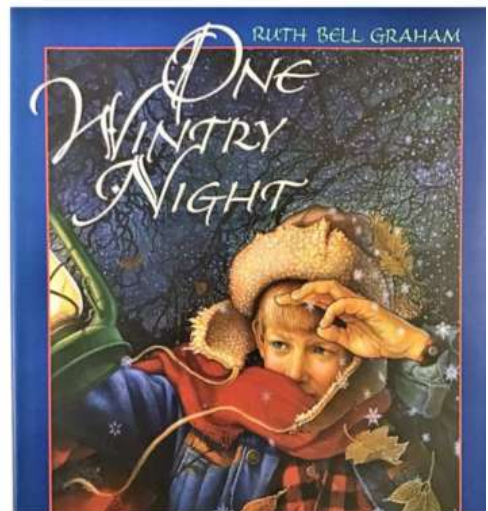
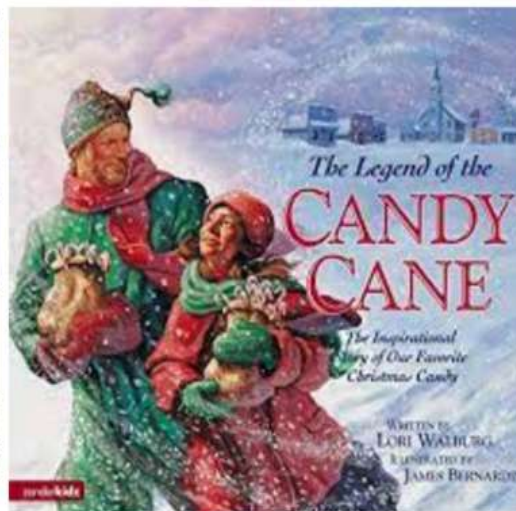
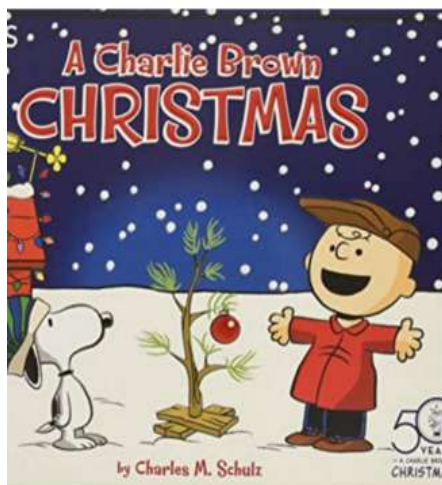
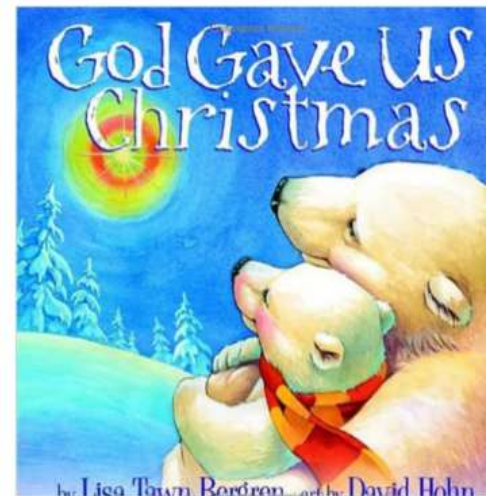
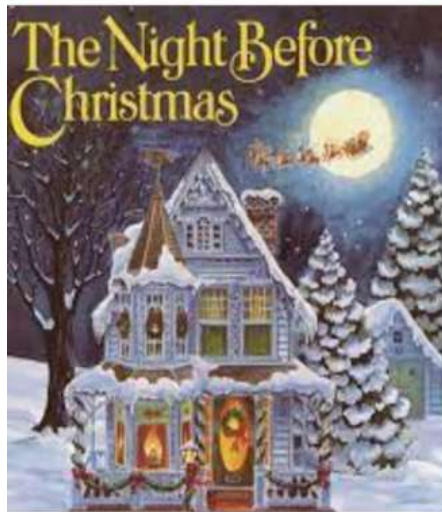
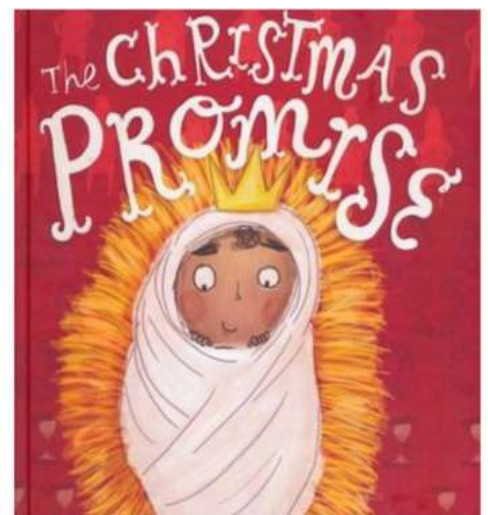
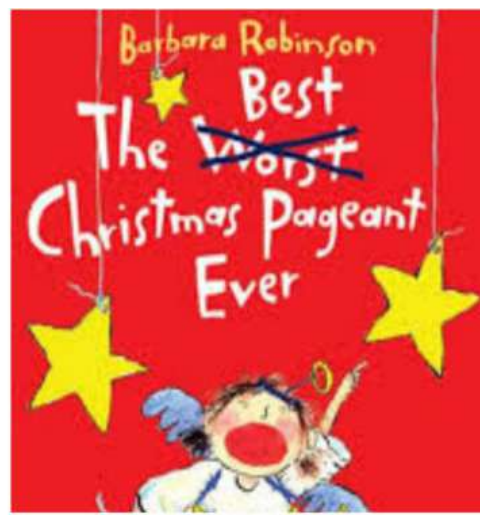
## WEEK 1

November 28 - December 4

Prophecy and Fulfillment about  
Jesus for Advent preparation

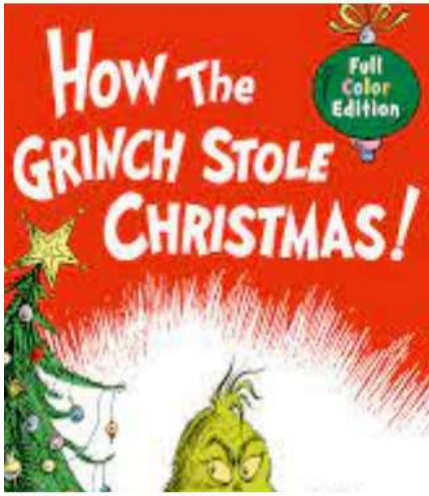
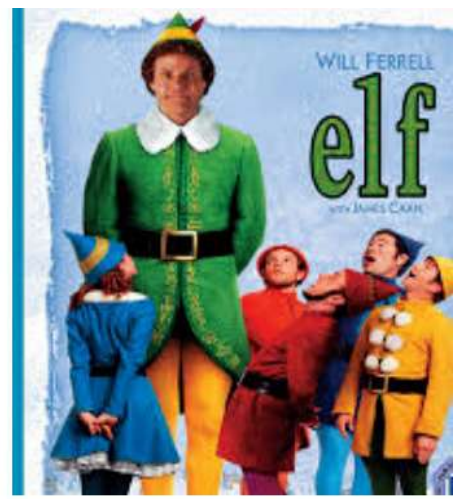
*Download the whole devotional for free  
at [Fiveminutesoffergie.com/freebies](https://www.fiveminutesoffergie.com/freebies)*





Other books I've found:

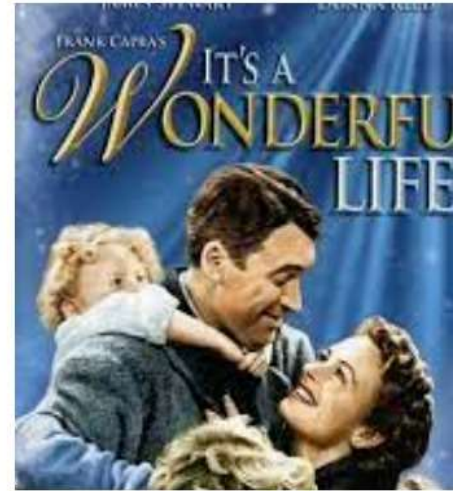
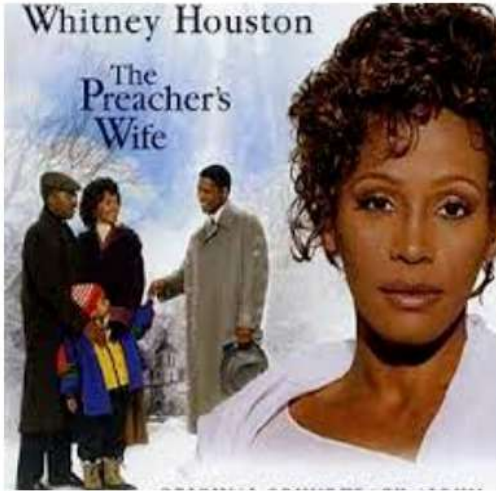
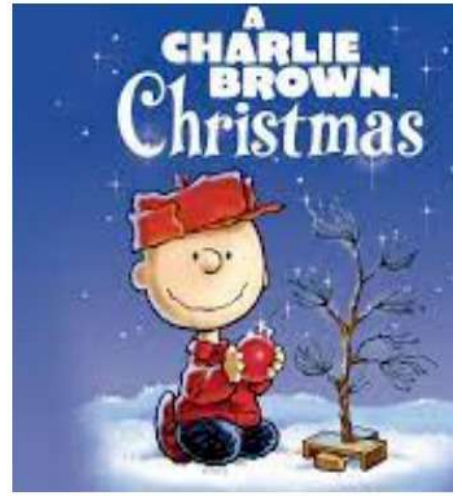




Best Christmas  

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Movies



Other movies I've found:



# Christmas

## Around the World

Christmas is the most celebrated and universally recognized holiday worldwide. It is December 25th in most countries. Traditions vary from country to country

In Brazil, Christmas is less about presents and more about food. Many start the celebration Christmas Eve, and go to Midnight Mass

Christmas, like Easter, can be celebrated as a Christian holiday or a secular holiday, or a mixture of both. Many people celebrate Advent to prepare for the time of Christmas

In Haiti, many people go to a Christmas Eve service that starts about 11pm. At midnight they sing the traditional song "Minuit Chrétien"

Also like Easter, Orthodox Christmas is normally on January 7 instead of December 25 because they use a different calendar. The 12 days of Christmas (after Christmas) lead to January 6th: Epiphany or Kings day

In Kenya, many churches hold night vigils, or 'Keshu', on Christmas Eve. They often sing Christmas hymns and carols, and some have nativity plays

In some persecuted countries, specially Muslim majority countries, they do not celebrate Christmas, as it is a Christian holiday

In Tanzania, families will fatten up a cow or goat to eat for Christmas, and many kids hope for new clothes, rather than toys, for Christmas

In India, Nativity scenes are called "Christmas cribs", and Kerala plum cake is served in place of fruitcake. Many Hindu's don't celebrate, but the holiday has become secularized enough that many do

In Uganda, Sekukkulu, the birth of Jesus Christ, begins on 24 December with a "watch night" service. They normally have a lunch feast with family

# Christmas

## A Basic History

1

Around  
0AD

### Jesus was born in Bethlehem

You can read the accounts in Matthew 1-2 and Luke 1-2. The early church celebrated Christ's death and resurrection more than His birth, but many cultures celebrated a winter solstice, or a time of light during the coldest, darkest part of winter.

2

400s



### Pope Julius 1 choose December 25 to celebrate Jesus' birth

It was first called the Feast of the Nativity, and worked well since most cultures already had some kind of celebration in place. By the middle ages, Christmas had been embraced, but was more of a drunken revelry of the solstice than the Christian holiday we think of today. In fact, many Christians stopped celebrating it by the 1600-1700s.

3

1870



### Christmas officially becomes a US federal holiday

With Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" and a new focus on caring for children in the 1800s, decorating trees, sending holiday cards, gift-giving (and Santa) quickly became new traditions for Christmas, brought to the USA by different European immigrants.

4

Now



### Christmas is a Big Deal

Christmas is the most celebrated and universally recognized holiday worldwide. The most money of any holiday is spent on Christmas (about 900 billion dollars). Most people connect it as a Christian holiday, but celebrate it as a time of gift-giving and family time, often leaving the whole "Jesus part" out.



# Christmas

## Connected to Missions

1



**Send Christmas cards to your missionaries and sponsored children!**

Ask them how they celebrate Christmas and what it means to them. Tell them how you celebrate, and what it means to you!

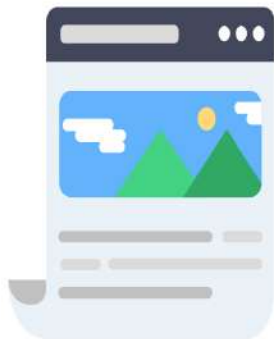
2



**Use Christmas Gift Catalogs from missions organizations to give presents around the World**

Some of your missionaries may be able to receive packages in the mail as well, but it is important to check first, before sending it!

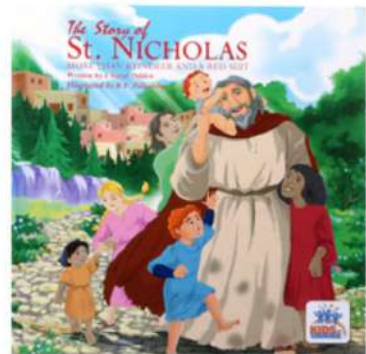
3



**Use the 10 Activities from KidsEnjoyingJesus.com**

This website has great Christmas ideas, with videos, Bible Verses, songs, and printable resources. They also have Advent for Kids ideas. [WorldRenewal.org/kids-holidays](http://WorldRenewal.org/kids-holidays) also has an Advent/Lent free PDF

4



**Learn more about St. Nicholas, the man who became Santa Claus**

"The Story of St. Nicholas: More than Reindeer and a Red Suit" by Voice of the Martyrs is an easy and great way to share about someone who was persecuted for his faith.



\* SPECIAL CRAFT \*

# 12 Days of Christmas Boxes

Buy 12 white boxes that fit inside each other at a craft store or online, and turn them into something really fun. All the PDFs to print are at the blog link below.

Watch us make this craft at YouTube Five Minutes of Fergie, video "Best Homemade Christmas present Ever"



[Fiveminutesoffergie.com/friday-finds/best-homemade-present-ever](https://fiveminutesoffergie.com/friday-finds/best-homemade-present-ever)