

Journey to Bethlehem: An Advent Bible Reading Guide

Adapted from ScriptureUnion.org

To finish on Christmas Day begin on Monday, Nov. 30.

His Coming Foretold

Day 1: His Birth Foretold

Read: Isaiah 9:1-7

Reflect: What are the special names given to the child who is to be born?

Day 2: His Peace Foretold

Read: Isaiah 11:1-10

Reflect: What will empower this “root of Jesse” to bring such peace and justice to the world?

Day 3: His Suffering Foretold

Read: Isaiah 53:1-6

Reflect: What was the reason for this one’s sorrow and suffering?

Day 4: His Birthplace Foretold

Read: Micah 5:2-5

Reflect: Where does the prophet say the “promised ruler” will be born?

Day 5: His Kingship Foretold

Read: Zechariah 9: 9-13

Reflect: What might surprise someone about the description of this King?

His Coming Prepared

Day 6: At The Right Time

Read: Galatians 4:4-7

Reflect: For what reason did God send his son “at the right time”?

Day 7: By the Holy Spirit

Read: Matthew 1: 18-24

Reflect: Why do you think it was important that the baby be conceived by the Holy Spirit?

Day 8: Preceded by John

Read: Luke 1:5-17

Reflect: What did the angel say was to be John’s task in life?

Day 9: Announced by the Angel

Read: Luke 1:26-38

Reflect: How did Mary feel when she heard this momentous announcement?

Day 10: With Great Rejoicing!

Read: Luke 1:39-45

Reflect: How did Elizabeth show her joy at Mary’s news?

The Child is Born

Day 11: The Birth of Jesus

Read: Luke 2:1-7

Reflect: Why did Mary and Joseph have their baby in Bethlehem?

Day 12: The Angel's Good News

Read: Luke 2: 8-14

Reflect: What immediately followed this momentous announcement of good news?

Day 13: The Shepherds Find Him

Read: Luke 2:15-20

Reflect: How did people react to the shepherd's report about the child?

Day 14: The Child in the Temple

Read: Luke 2:21-32

Reflect: Why was Simeon so moved by seeing this baby?

Day 15: The Child's Future

Read: Luke 2: 33-40

Reflect: What did Simeon and Anna see for Jesus' future?

His Childhood and Youth

Day 16: The Magi's Search

Read: Matthew 2: 1-6

Reflect: How did the priests and teachers of the law know where Jesus would be born?

Day 17: The Magi's Worship

Read: Matthew 2:7-12

Reflect: When the Magi finally saw the child, what was their response?

Day 18: The Flight to Egypt

Read: Matthew 2: 13-18

Reflect: How was the baby delivered from being murdered?

Day 19: The Return to Nazareth

Read: Matthew 2:19-23

Reflect: What was significant about Jesus growing up in Nazareth?

Day 20: The Father's House

Read: Luke 2: 41-52

Reflect: What was so surprising about Jesus' time in the Temple?

His Incarnation Explained

Day 21: His Divine Being

Read: Colossians 1:15-20

Reflect: What is given as God's purpose and intention for Christ here?

Day 22: His Superiority

Read: Hebrews 1:1-4

Reflect: Why is Jesus clearly so "superior"?

Day 23: He Humbled Himself

Read: Phil. 2: 5-11

Reflect: How and why did Jesus "humble himself"?

Day 24: His Offering for Sin

Read: Romans 8:1-4

Reflect: What has been accomplished for us through Christ's coming?

Day 25: His Gift to Us

Read: Ephesians 2:1-10

Reflect: What is the gift Christ gives and how does one receive it?

CHRISTMAS DAY: The Word Became Flesh

Read: John 1: 1-17

Reflect: What blessings has "the word become flesh" brought to us?