



**Advent
Jesse Tree
Devotions**

JESSE TREE DEVOTIONS

Your Jesse Tree can serve as a very special kind of Advent calendar to help you change the Christmas conversations with your family and friends and prepare for the celebration of Christmas this year. On the first Sunday of Advent and each day until Christmas Day, you should read the story in this devotional and place the appropriate ornament on your “tree.”

If your family is made up of older children and adults, you might also take turns reading the suggested Scripture passages. The questions following the devotion are meant to stimulate conversation with your family members. The prayers at the end of the story contain a thought to challenge us to allow God to make a difference in our lives and the lives of those we know. Consider how you can put some of these challenges into action.

May God fill you with new joy as you consider how marvelous a gift we have been given!

Second Place Church

Devotions adapted from *The Jesse Tree, A Promise for Advent*
Written by Sally Baker

SUNDAY, NOV 27– WEEK 1

Scripture: Genesis 2:4-9, 15-17

Person: Adam & Eve

Ornament: Apple

God created Adam and Eve. They lived in the Garden of Eden and had one rule from God: “Do not eat the fruit of the forbidden tree.” Adam and Eve listened to the devil instead of God and ate the fruit. God still loved Adam and Eve, but he had to punish them for disobeying him. He sent them out of the garden, and they had to work for their food. God also made a promise to Adam and Eve: He would always love them. Today, we put an apple on the Jesse tree to remind us that even when we make bad choices, like Adam and Eve did, God loves us.

Talk About:

1. What sort of bad choices do we sometimes make?

Prayer:

Thank you, God, for loving us, even when we make bad choices.

MONDAY, NOV 28 – WEEK 1

Scripture: Genesis 9:8-17

Person: Noah

Ornament: Rainbow

Many people were disobeying God and this made God sad. There came a time when there was so much sin in the world that God had to find a way to remove sin from the world. So he asked Noah to build the ark and to save his own family, as well as the animals, because Noah and his family remembered God. Then God sent rain and the world flooded, and God destroyed all the people and animals that were not on the ark. When the water was gone, God sent a rainbow to show us that He won't ever flood the world again. Today, we put a rainbow on the Jesse tree to remind us of Noah and the ark. Every time you see a rainbow, remember that God keeps his promises.

Talk About:

1. Have you ever seen a rainbow? What colors did you see?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for keeping your promises and for rainbows.

TUESDAY, NOV 29 – WEEK 1

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-3; James 2:23

Person: Abraham

Ornament: Ring

Sometimes God asks us to do things that are hard to do. God asks us to be good when it would be so much easier – and sometimes more fun – to be naughty. God asks us to go places and do things we'd rather not do. God told Abraham to leave and go to a special land where God would take care of him and all his children after him. Abraham obeyed God. Today, we put a ring on the Jesse tree to remind us that Abraham and God made a promise to each other.

Talk About:

1. Name a time that you did the right thing even when it was hard to do.

Prayer:

Dear God, Help us to listen to you and the Bible and do what we know is right

WEDNESDAY, NOV 30 – WEEK 1

Scripture: Genesis 22:1-12

Person: Isaac

Ornament: Wool in the Thicket

Isaac was a special boy, and his father, Abraham, loved him very much. But Abraham loved God even more than he loved Isaac. One day God asked Abraham to take Isaac on a journey. Abraham obeyed. God also asked Abraham to kill Isaac as a sacrifice, as a way of showing how much Abraham loved God. Abraham was sad, but he knew that he had to obey God. He trusted that even though he was being asked to do something terrible, God would make everything right. As he was getting ready to sacrifice Isaac, God sent an angel to stop Abraham and save Isaac's life. Then Abraham sacrificed a sheep as a way of honoring God, and to thank him for saving Isaac's life. Today we put a pile of sticks on the Jesse tree to remind us that just as Abraham had hoped to with Isaac, God received Jesus alive back from the dead.

Talk About:

1. Which rule is the hardest one for you to obey? Why?

Prayer:

Dear God, Help us to listen to you and the Bible and do what you want us to do.

THURSDAY, DEC 1 – WEEK 1

Scripture: Genesis 28:10-17, 22

Person: Jacob

Ornament: Ladder

Jacob, Isaac's son, was feeling bad because he had been mean to his brother. He was running away, and stopped to rest. God gave him a dream. In the dream, there was a ladder going to heaven. God was at the top of the ladder. God told Jacob that He loved him and would take care of him always. Today, we put a ladder on the Jesse tree to remind us that God will always be with us just like Jacob.

Talk About:

1. How do you know that God is always with you?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for being our friend and always being with us.

FRIDAY, DEC 2 – WEEK 1

Scripture: Genesis 45:4-11; 50:19-21

Person: Joseph

Ornament: Colored Coat

Jacob had twelve sons, one whose name was Joseph. Jacob gave Joseph a colored coat. This made his brothers feel bad so they were mean to him. They sold him to a man who made him a servant and even put him in prison. But God had given Joseph a special gift of understanding dreams, and Joseph was able to use his special gift to help others. He was rewarded for his help by being given a very important job. While he was doing this job, he again met his brothers, who did not recognize him. Even though Joseph could have been mean to his brothers, he chose to help them. He knew that even though he had gone through some terrible times, God had been with him through everything, and God still expected him to do good things. Today, we put a brightly colored coat on the Jesse tree to remember that we need to be kind to others even when they are mean to us.

Talk About:

1. Who can you be kind to today?

Prayer:

God, help us to be kind to others just as you are kind and forgiving to us.

SATURDAY, DEC 3 – WEEK 1

Scripture: Exodus 6:2-8

Person: Moses

Ornament: Baby

One day a baby was born whose name was Moses. To keep him safe from the mean king, his mom and sister had to put him in a basket in the river. A princess found him and saved him. She gave him back to his mother to take care of until he was older and could live with the princess at the palace. God took care of Moses because he loved him and had an important job for him. Today, we put a baby on the Jesse tree to remind us that God has a special job for us and will keep us safe.

Talk About:

1. Who helps you feel safe? How?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for helping us and keeping us safe.

SUNDAY, DEC 4 – WEEK 2

Scripture: Joshua 24:14-15, 31

Person: Joshua

Ornament: Horn

There was a city called Jericho where God's people wanted to live, but it had a big wall all around it so they could not get in. But God told Joshua that He would help him take over the city. God told Joshua to blow his trumpet and march around the walls of Jericho. Joshua had faith that God could do it, and God made the walls fall down so His people had a place to live. God can do anything! Today, we put a horn on the Jesse tree to remember that God can do anything.

Talk About:

1. Name something that you think is hard to do.

Prayer:

God, help us to have faith like Joshua. We know you can do anything!

MONDAY, DEC 5 – WEEK 2

Scripture: Joshua 2:9-13

Person: Rahab

Ornament: Red Bow

There was a woman named Rahab who lived in Jericho. She helped two of the Israelite spies as they got ready to march around the walls. She hid the two men in her house and then helped them to escape. She knew that God had promised the city of Jericho to Joshua and the Israelites, and she believed that God is a powerful God. Because she believed in God and helped his servants, God saved her and her family. When the men were marching, she put a red ribbon out her window, and they were brought to safety. Today, we put a ribbon on the Jesse tree to remember that God will help our faith grow, just like Rahab's.

Talk About:

1. Tell about a time that God gave you the courage to help someone.

Prayer:

Please help us to have faith like Rahab, Jesus. Thank you for taking care of us.

TUESDAY, DEC 6 – WEEK 2

Scripture: Ruth 1:16-18; 2:11-13

Person: Ruth

Ornament: Bundle of Straw

Ruth and Naomi had lost all the people they loved. Naomi's two sons – one of them was Ruth's husband – had died, and Naomi's husband had died too. Naomi had been living in Ruth's country, far from her family, and so Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem. Ruth could have stayed in her own country with her own family, but she chose to go to Bethlehem with Naomi. They had to work hard so they could eat. One of Naomi's relatives named Boaz helped them. His workers would leave grain in the fields for Ruth to gather and make into bread. Boaz shared his grain with Ruth so she could take care of Naomi. Today, we put a bundle of straw on the Jesse tree to remind us that God wants people to take care of each other.

Talk About:

1. Tell about a time when you shared something with someone else.

Prayer:

Dear God, help us to be kind friends who share what we have.

WEDNESDAY, DEC 7 – WEEK 2

Scripture: 1 Samuel 2:35; 3:19-4:1

Person: Samuel

Ornament: Vial of Oil

Samuel lived at the temple with Eli. He learned about God and how to serve Him. God talked to Samuel in a dream and told him that he would have an important job. Samuel did not know what the special job would be, but he said that he would do whatever God wanted. When Samuel was older, he used poured oil from a bottle onto the head of another servant of God who would become King of Israel. God has a plan for each of us. It's important to listen for God's call and to find ways to honor God in our lives. Today, we put a vial of oil on the Jesse tree to remind us that God gives us all special jobs and helps us to do them.

Talk About:

1. What special job do you have at home?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for giving us special jobs and helping us to do them.

THURSDAY, DEC 8 – WEEK 2

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10

Person: Jesse

Ornament: Tree

Jesse was the son of Obed, the son of Boaz and Ruth. Jesse knew of God's love and raised his eight sons to know God's laws and promises. One day, Samuel came to Jesse's house to find the future king of Israel. Jesse thought that one of his older sons would be the future king of Israel. But, God told Samuel to pick David, who was the youngest. Jesse was like a strong tree with deep roots of faith, so God rewarded him by making his son David one of the most important kings ever. Today, we put a tree on the Jesse tree to remind us that Jesse taught his children to love God, and God blessed them.

Talk About:

1. What activity do you like to do with your mom and dad?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for parents who teach us to love you.

FRIDAY, DEC 9 – WEEK 2

Scripture: 2 Samuel 22:32-38, 47, 50-51

Person: David

Ornament: Candy Cane

David was a shepherd when he was younger. He would use a cane to gently herd his sheep and keep them safe from wild animals. He learned to trust God from his dad Jesse. David often sang songs to show his love for God. When David became the king of Israel, God blessed him and all of Israel. David was a good king because God guided him and because David listened to God. Kings protect their people just like shepherds protect their sheep. Today, we put a candy cane on the Jesse tree to remember that David loved his sheep and took care of them with his shepherd's cane.

Talk About:

1. What is your favorite song? When do you like to sing?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for taking care of us and giving us voices to sing songs of praise to you.

SATURDAY, DEC 10 – WEEK 2

Scripture: 1 Kings 9:3-7

Person: Solomon

Ornament: Crown

Solomon became king after his father David. He asked God for help, and God made him very smart. People often came to him with questions, and God helped him know the answers. Being a king is an important job. Kings must be wise and strong; they must do what is good for the people of their land. Sometimes they must fight wars, but whenever possible they need to try to keep peace. Solomon became very powerful and used his power to build a beautiful temple where people could worship God. Today, we put a crown on the Jesse tree to remind us that God helped King Solomon to be a wise king.

Talk About:

1. Name something that God has made.

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for all the wonderful things you give to us. We know that everything we have is from you.

SUNDAY, DEC 11 – WEEK 3

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 20:15-17

Person: Jehoshaphat

Ornament: Harmonica

Jehoshaphat was David's great-great-great grandson. He was a good king with a small army. He prayed for God to win a battle for them. Instead of fighting, Jehoshaphat took the families and children to pray and sing songs to God. God provided a miracle when the other armies were so confused that they fought each other and not Jehoshaphat. Today, we put a harmonica on the Jesse tree to remember that when we worship God with our music, we show Him how much we love Him.

Talk About:

1. What is your favorite Bible song? Sing it with your family.

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for listening to our prayers and songs. We love you!

MONDAY, DEC 12 – WEEK 3

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7

Person: Isaiah

Ornament: Scroll

Many, many years before Jesus was born, people called prophets would bring God's message to the people of Israel. The prophets reminded the people of what God wanted them to do. God wanted them to be good and kind to others. The prophets told the people to worship only the one true God. Isaiah was a prophet who loved God very much. He wanted the people of Judah to obey and listen to God so they would be protected and blessed. When Isaiah was sad for the people, God gave him a promise that they would be saved when Jesus was born. This made Isaiah and the people very happy. Today, we place a scroll on the Jesse tree to remind us of the promises Isaiah wrote down that God had given him.

Talk About:

1. Have you ever made a promise to somebody? What was it? Did you keep it?

Prayer:

Dear God, help us to keep our promises just as You always do.

TUESDAY, DEC 13 – WEEK 3

Scripture: 2 Kings 18:1-8; 19:32-36

Person: Hezekiah

Ornament: Snake

King Hezekiah was the great-great-great grandson of King Jehoshaphat. Hezekiah pretty much did what the Lord wanted of his kings throughout his reign. Like David, he showed great respect for the temple. He even smashed up the bronze serpent that Moses had made because the people had turned it into an idol rather than a memorial. When he saw that the temple needed repair again, he had the doors fixed and the inside cleaned. He also told the people to make themselves clean on the inside. They told God they were sorry for all the things they had done wrong. God was very happy with the people and all that Hezekiah did. Today, we place a snake on the Jesse tree to remind us that Hezekiah put his trust in God.

Talk About:

1. What does your mom or dad help you with? How can you help your brother or sister or friend?

Prayer:

Thank You, God, that we can pray to You and You will help us.

WEDNESDAY, DEC 14 – WEEK 3

Scripture: Jonah 3:1-10

Person: Jonah

Ornament: Whale

Jonah was one of God's special preachers, called a prophet. God asked Jonah to do a special and important job. God told Jonah to go to a city and tell them they needed to obey God. Jonah did not want to go. He got on a boat to run away. Suddenly there was a terrible storm. Jonah was thrown into the water and swallowed by a huge fish! Jonah prayed to God and the big fish opened its mouth and let Jonah out. Then Jonah listened to what God asked him to do. Today, we put a whale on the Jesse tree to remember that God wants us to tell other people about God, just like Jonah did.

Talk About:

1. Who can you tell about God?

Prayer:

Thank you for listening to our prayers, God. Please help us to tell others about You.

THURSDAY, DEC 15 – WEEK 3

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 34:1-3

Person: Josiah

Ornament: Broom

Josiah was a boy who became king of Judah when he was only eight years old. He wanted to help the people turn to God by cleaning up the temples so they could worship God and follow His laws, which the people had not been doing. Josiah and the people then celebrated God's love for them. Today, we place a broom on the Jesse tree to remind us how hard Josiah worked to get the people to love God again.

Talk About:

1. What rules do you need to obey?

Prayer:

Dear God, help us to always obey Your laws, show Your love, and work hard.

FRIDAY, DEC 16 – WEEK 3

Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34; 33:14-16

Person: Jeremiah

Ornament: Heart

The people of Israel were not obeying God. He was sad because they did not love Him. He sent the prophet Jeremiah to tell them they would be captured in battle. God still loved them with all of His heart, but He had to punish them. Later, they asked God to forgive them and promised to listen. Today, we put a heart on the Jesse tree to remember that even when we are punished, we are always loved. We need to have Jesus in our hearts so that we do the right things.

Talk About:

1. What punishment do your parents give you even though they love you?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for loving us so much! Help us to always keep You in our heart.

SATURDAY, DEC 17 – WEEK 3

Scripture: Daniel 6:25-57

Person: Daniel

Ornament: Lion

God wants to be the most important thing in our lives: more important than our family, more important than our things, more important than even our own lives. Daniel understood that; he worshiped God every day. A law was made that told Daniel that he had to worship a different king instead of God. When Daniel did not obey this law and worshipped God, he was punished and put in with lions that would kill him. God saved Daniel's life, so the king honored Daniel and God and changed the law. People learned of God's power because of Daniel, and many others worshiped God because Daniel had trusted and honored God. Today, we put a lion on the Jesse tree to remind us of Daniel's faith in God.

Talk About:

1. Who do you love the most?

Prayer:

It is not easy to love you the most, God, but help us to love you and trust you every day.

SUNDAY, DEC 18 – WEEK 4

Scripture: Esther 4

Person: Esther

Ornament: Tiara

Esther was a beautiful Jewish woman. She lived with her cousin Mordecai, a high official in the king's government. After winning a beauty contest, she moves into the palace, becoming queen. She never tells the king that she is Jewish. Some time later, Mordecai refuses to bow down to Haman, another high official. Angry, Haman plots to kill Mordecai, as well as all the Jews. Mordecai hears of the plot and reports it to Esther. Esther asks the king to save the Jewish people. The king does. Esther's faith and courage saves her people. Today, we put a tiara on the Jesse tree to remember that God can use ordinary people like you and me to do great things.

Talk About:

1. What can you do to show God that you love Him?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for helping us do great things for You.

MONDAY, DEC 19 – WEEK 4

Scripture: Ezra 1:1-4; 3:8-13

Person: Zerubbabel

Ornament: Wood & Nail

While the Israelites were in the wilderness, the beautiful temple that Solomon built was destroyed. Cyrus, the king, put Zerubbabel in charge of the rebuilding. It was a big job that took many years. The Israelites were thankful that God kept His promise and brought them back to Jerusalem. Today, we put a nail and wood on the Jesse tree to remember that the Israelites rebuilt the temple when God kept His promise to bring them back to their land.

Talk About:

1. What do you like to build?

Prayer:

Dear God, help us to remember that Christmas is a celebration of how You have always kept Your promises.

TUESDAY, DEC 20 – WEEK 4

Scripture: Ezra 7:6, 10, 27-28

Person: Ezra

Ornament: Law Tablets

Ezra always wanted to teach the people of Jerusalem about God. He had many helpers and was given gifts of silver and gold to put in the temple of God. Ezra taught the people about God's laws on the tablets, which are called The Ten Commandments. They asked God to forgive them and to help them live good lives. Today, we put the law tablets on the Jesse tree to remind us how important God's laws are.

Talk About:

1. Name one of the Ten Commandments.

Prayer:

Dear God, help us to obey your laws. Thank you for always forgiving and loving us.

WEDNESDAY, DEC 21 – WEEK 4

Scripture: Luke 1:67-80

Person: Zechariah

Ornament: Gift

Zechariah was a priest who loved and believed in God. He had been waiting for God to send the King He had promised. One day, God sent an angel to Zechariah to tell him that he would have a son who would get the people ready for Jesus, God's promised King. Zechariah wasn't sure he believed the angel, and so God took away Zechariah's voice as a sign of God's power. Imagine if you had seen an angel who had told you wonderful, happy news, and you weren't able to tell anyone what had happened! Zechariah was sad to have lost his voice, but he was happy to know that he would have a son chosen by God to do important work. This son, John, would have a special job from God – to tell people to get ready for Jesus, the greatest gift God has ever given to us. Today, we put a gift on the Jesse tree to remember that Jesus is a gift from God.

Talk About:

1. What is one of the best gifts you have ever received?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to us and keeping Your promise.

THURSDAY, DEC 22 – WEEK 4

Scripture: Matthew 3:1-12

Person: John the Baptist

Ornament: Coat

Zechariah and Elizabeth's son grew up to be John the Baptist. He was Jesus' cousin because Elizabeth was Mary's cousin. God chose him to tell the people about Jesus. John wanted people to know that Jesus is the Son of God, the Savior that God had promised the people so many years ago. He wanted them to believe in Jesus. John did not look like other people. He wore a coat of camel's hair and ate locusts and honey. Some people probably thought he was a little strange. But many people did listen to John, and they were ready to believe in Jesus. Today, we put a coat of animal hair on the Jesse tree to remind us that Jesus forgives us when we ask.

Talk About:

1. Tell something you do that is wrong.

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for forgiving us when we do things wrong.

FRIDAY, DEC 23 – WEEK 4

Scripture: Matthew 1:20-23

Person: Joseph

Ornament: Star

Joseph was part of David's family. He was a carpenter. He knew of God's promise that a star or special person would someday be part of his family. God sent an angel to talk to Joseph in a dream Joseph was so surprised when the angel asked Joseph and Mary to be the Daddy and Mommy of Jesus, the special star from God. Today, we put the star on the Jesse tree to remind us of God's promise to send his star Jesus.

Talk About:

1. What does your dad do at his work?

Prayer:

Thank you, God, for the stars that brighten up the dark star. Please help us to shine for You and Your son, Jesus.

SAT, CHRISTMAS EVE – WEEK 4

Scripture: Luke 1:30-33, 46-55

Person: Mary

Ornament: Angel

God sent an angel to Mary. The angel told Mary that she would have a baby, whom she would name Jesus. Mary wasn't sure that she could be a good mother to Jesus, but the angel reminded Mary that God would be with her. Mary knew that being a mother is a difficult and important job, but she knew that God would guide her. She also knew that she loved God and wanted to do whatever she could to serve him. This baby was the gift that God had been promising His people; Jesus would save the people from their sins. She was so excited to have such a special job from God. Today, we put an angel on the Jesse tree to remind us that God sent an angel to Mary to tell her the good news of Jesus' coming.

Talk About:

1. Name something special about your mother.

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for loving us so much and sending Jesus to us on the first Christmas.

SUN, CHRISTMAS DAY – WEEK 4

Scripture: John 3:16-17

Person: Jesus

Ornament: Butterfly

Today is Christmas – the day Jesus was born. When sin first came into the world, God made a promise. Even when the people forgot about God and the promise, God didn't forget about the people. God guided the people, protected the people, and loved the people, even when they were sinful. God was faithful, and today the promise is fulfilled. God has given us His greatest gift ever so that we may be forgiven for bad choices we make and someday go to heaven to live with Him. Today, we put a butterfly on the Jesse tree as a sign of new life, just like we have new life because of God's promises.

Talk About:

1. What is your favorite part of the Christmas story?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for giving us new life through your greatest gift of all – Jesus.

THE SYMBOLIC ORNAMENTS FOR THE JESSE TREE STORIES

Each of the ornaments for the Jesse Tree has been chosen as a symbol of the story for that day.

1. **Adam & Eve – apple** (to represent the fruit of the “forbidden” tree)
2. **Noah – rainbow** (the sign of the promise God made to Noah)
3. **Abraham – ring** (to represent God’s covenant or vow with Abraham)
4. **Isaac – pile of sticks** (to represent the altar on which Abraham was to sacrifice Isaac)
5. **Jacob – ladder** (part of Jacob’s dream)
6. **Joseph – colored coat** (the coat that Joseph was given by Jacob)
7. **Moses – baby** (to represent baby Moses in the basket in the river)
8. **Joshua – horn** (to represent a trumpet calling the Israelites to conquest)
9. **Rahab – red bow** (to represent the red rope Rahab hung from her window)
10. **Ruth – bundle of straw** (to represent the grain that Ruth harvested in Boaz’s fields)
11. **Samuel – vial of oil** (Samuel used a vial filled with oil to anoint Saul and David to be kings)
12. **Jesse – tree** (Jesse’s family tree was the family from which Jesus would come)
13. **David – candy cane** (the candy cane looks like David’s shepherd’s crook)
14. **Solomon – crown** (Solomon was a great king)
15. **Jehoshaphat – harmonica** (to represent the battle won by praising God)
16. **Isaiah – scroll** (to represent the prophecies of the Messiah to come)
17. **Hezekiah – snake** (to represent the brazen serpent that Hezekiah smashed)
18. **Jonah – whale** (Jonah’s “detour” on his way to Ninevah)
19. **Josiah – broom** (to represent Josiah’s cleaning and repairing of the temple)
20. **Jeremiah – heart** (to represent Jeremiah’s prophecies about changed hearts)
21. **Daniel – lion** (Daniel’s experience in the lion’s den)
22. **Esther – tiara** (Esther probably wore one in the beauty contest)
23. **Zerubbabel – nail and wood** (to represent the rebuilding of the temple)
24. **Ezra – law tablets** (to represent Ezra’s teaching God’s law to the people)
25. **Zechariah – gift** (to represent how Zechariah came to understand God’s “gift” of promises that were being fulfilled)
26. **John the Baptist – coat** (to represent the coat of camel’s hair that John the Baptist wore)
27. **Joseph – star** (to represent that Jesus was the “star” which had been promised to come from David’s family)
28. **Mary – angel** (it was an angel who revealed God’s wonderful news to Mary)
29. **Jesus – butterfly** (Jesus was born to eventually die for our sins. The butterfly represents His resurrection from the dead and the reality of the new life we have because God’s promises have been kept.)



“May you serve God, His people, and your household well.” —2 Chron. 24:16b

Home first.

When we say “home first” it means that our homes are the first (or primary) place where our faith grows. We can accomplish this by praying together, reading the Bible together and doing devotions together. It’s what happens outside of church, between Sundays, where you live life, build relationships and experience unforgettable moments that matter most. Whether you are a baby, toddler, student, young adult, single, newly married or been married forever, have one child or ten, an empty-nester, a widow or wise senior still full of life—your home is where your faith should grow the most. When each of our homes is a beacon of truth, our friends and family will see who God is and how to follow him wholeheartedly.

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