



Merry Christmas, Salem Grace Families!

We know that you want to make Christmas a special time for your family. And we want to help you create the best Christmas as you spend time making memories and reflecting on Jesus!

Inside this kit, you'll find everything you need to create a Christmas to remember with your family, including:



A Card for Each Day of Advent *(starting December 1st)*

Check your kit each day for a new challenge, story or verse to watch or read, or a fun activity for your family to do together!



A Kindness Challenge

You'll find the instructions on the challenge card included, as well as a small paper bag to fill.



A Birthday Cake for Jesus!

Make sure to join us in church on Sunday, December 17th and we will give you items to make a Birthday Cake for Jesus and have a celebration!

Join us for a Birthday Bash for Jesus!

- **When:** Sunday, December 24th at 9:00am & 11:00am
- **Where:** Grace Place
- **What else?** Kids are encouraged to wear their PJs!

We'd love to see you and your family...
and make sure to bring a friend!

What is Advent? And Why is it Important?

The Advent season is a four-week period before Christmas that celebrates the anticipation and coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah. The origin of "advent" is from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "arrival" or "coming". It is a season of expectation and hope. Believers across the world spend the weeks before Christmas preparing for and expecting the celebration of Jesus Christ's birth.

Explaining Advent to children is important because it helps them to understand the significance of the season and participate in its traditions. We can help our kids develop a deeper appreciation for the spirit of Christmas and develop a sense of wonder and joy during this special time.

One of the most meaningful ways to observe Advent is by giving back to others. This season offers the perfect opportunity for children to learn about service and compassion. You'll notice that several of the daily activities focus on giving back and performing acts of kindness. These actions spread joy and cheer and instill a sense of empathy and generosity in our children.

The act of giving back is not only beneficial for those who receive but also for those who give. By engaging in acts of service and compassion, we can develop a sense of gratitude and hope during this season.

Our hope is that this family advent kit helps us all to keep our focus on Jesus this Christmas while making memories with our family and friends.