ADVENT ALPHABET

This year, Advent is exactly 26 days long, one day for each letter of the alphabet! This activity helps us remember the story of that first Christmas and how Christians around the world have celebrated since!

Think of a word related to Advent or Christmas that starts with the letter of the day and draw a picture to match. Some letters can be pretty tricky, so check below for some suggestions if you get stuck.

- Advent a season of remembering the birth of Jesus and preparing for His return
- Angels the heavenly messengers of God who proclaimed the good news about Jesus (Matthew 1:20, 2:13, 2:19; Luke 1:11, 1:26, 2:9-14)
- Augustus the ruler of Rome who ordered the census that sent Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem (Luke 2:1)
- Anna the prophetess who praised God when the baby Jesus was brought to the temple in Jerusalem (Luke 2:36-38)
- **B**ethlehem the city of David, where Jesus was born (Micah 5:2; Luke 2:4; Matthew 2:5-6)
- **B**aby boy the way Jesus chose to come to earth (Luke 2:11-12)
- Candles used to decorate as a reminder that Jesus is the light shining in the darkness (John 1:5; Isaiah 9:2)
- Christ the promised Messiah, one of the titles of Jesus (Matthew 1:17, Luke 2:11)
- **C**arols traditional hymns sung at Christmastime to bring people together and communicate the gospel through music
- **D**reams how God communicated to Joseph and the Magi (Matthew 1:20, 2:12-13, 2:19, 2:22)

- **E**gypt the country where Joseph, Mary and Jesus escaped to when Herod tried to kill Jesus (Matthew 2:13-15)
- Elizabeth wife of the priest Zechariah who was unable to have children, but after the angel Gabriel announced that she would have a son, she gave birth to John the Baptist; a relative of Mary, the mother of Jesus (Luke 1).
- Frankincense one of the gifts the Magi presented to Jesus (Matthew 2:11)
- **G**abriel the angel who announced the births of John the Baptist and Jesus (Luke 1:11-20,26-38)
- **G**alilee the district where Joseph and Mary were from, and where they settled with Jesus when they returned from Egypt (Luke 1:26, 2:4; Matthew 2:22)
- **G**ifts the Magi brought Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh (Matthew 2:11)
- God Advent is the story of God Himself coming to live with His people, and Jesus is called the Son of God (Luke 1:32,35)
- **G**old one of the gifts the Magi presented to Jesus (Matthew 2:11)
- Heavenly Hosts the army of angels who appeared to the shepherds, praising God when Jesus was born (Luke 2:13-14)
- **H**oly Spirit God's own spirit, whose power enabled both Elizabeth and Mary to miraculously give birth to sons, and Zechariah to prophesy
- Immanuel one of the names of Jesus, meaning "God with us" (Matthew 1:23); can also be spelled with an E
- John son of Zechariah and Elizabeth; "a prophet of the Most High" who prepared the way for Jesus (Luke 1)
- Joseph carpenter from Galilee; husband of Mary; the adopted, or earthly, father of Jesus
- ${f J}$ esus the Son of God, son of Abraham, son of David, Saviour of the world

King Herod – ruler of Judea who was threatened by Jesus, the true King of the Jews, and tried to kill Jesus by having all the boys two years old and under in Bethlehem killed (Matthew 2:1-8,13-18)

Lambs – the first people to hear the good news of Jesus' birth were shepherds taking care of their flocks (lambs and sheep; Luke 2:8-20)

Light – "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

Love – "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

Mary – wife of Joseph; mother of Jesus

Magi – wealthy men, likely scholars and possibly magicians, from the east who followed a special star all the way to Israel, because they wanted to worship Jesus, the king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12)

Myrrh – one of the gifts the Magi presented to Jesus (Matthew 2:11)

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ADVENT ALPHABET	A	B	c	D	Ε	F
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U	V	W	X	y	Z	HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!