

ADVENT FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP KIT:

WHO DO
YOU
SAY I AM?



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Week 1: JESUS IS YOUR SAVIOR

Read:

Luke 2:8-20

Reflect & Discuss:

Who is mentioned in this story?

Why do you think God gave such a great message to shepherds?
(who were considered dirty and not worth much in those days)

What did the angels say about Jesus?

What did the shepherds do then?

What did Mary, Jesus' mother do when the shepherds had left?

Do you think God gives great messages like this still today?

Something to Think About:

When Jesus was born, he was just a little baby – just like all of us when we were born. He still needed his parents for food, for shelter, for safety. Yet this little baby was already being called the Savior of the world. The Messiah. The one who everyone had been waiting for. For thousands of years! If you were a shepherd in those days, how do you think you'd react if all of a sudden an angel talked to you? I don't know about you, but I think I'd be pretty scared! After the shock wore off, I'd be very curious to see this baby that the angels told me about. We're told the shepherd left their flocks of sheep and went into the town to find the baby. Shepherds never left their sheep without someone watching them. This news from the angels must have been really something for them to leave their sheep now!

If someone were to tell you that there is a Savior worth leaving everything you have to go see him, would you? The Savior that we know as Jesus is definitely worth leaving everything for. Once you have Jesus, what more do you need, really? Nothing! This Christmas be sure to remember that with Jesus you have everything you need. All the gifts and goodies you'll get are just the extras. Jesus is enough!

Week 2:

JESUS IS YOUR LORD

Read:

Romans 10:9-15

Reflect & Discuss:

What does this passage tell us about Jesus?

What does the title of "Lord" mean to you?
(it's okay to look up the definition in a dictionary)

What does it tell us about ourselves?

How can you know for sure that you are saved?

How can you let others know about Jesus as Lord?

Something to Think About:

Lord is a title reserved for God in most of the Bible. There are only a few instances when that title is given to Jesus. It could, in fact, be used all the time for Jesus, since Jesus is God. Your Lord wants you to know how to be saved by him. It's really rather simple – believe with your heart and tell with your mouth. Jesus wants you to not only know that you are saved, which you are if you have done those two things, but he also wants you to not keep that information to yourself. Tell your family. Tell your friends. You may be the only one who has told that other person about Jesus. About your Lord. You want others to know that they can be saved, too, don't you?

Week 3:

JESUS IS YOUR CHRIST

Read:

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Reflect & Discuss:

Why did Paul (the writer of Timothy) thank God?

What does "grace" mean here? (Use a dictionary if that would help)

What does grace mean to you?

Why did Jesus Christ come into this world?

Did Jesus Christ comfort you, too? How do you know?

List all the words that Paul uses in this passage to describe Jesus.

Which word means the most to you? Why?

Something to Think About:

The word "Christ" is only found in the New Testament. And there it is mentioned over 500 times! Sometimes Jesus is called Christ Jesus. Other times it is Jesus Christ. Both mean basically the same. "Jesus" is the human name given to the Son of God. "Christ" is a title that means Messiah, or anointed one, or chosen one. So whether Jesus is called Christ Jesus (the heavenly title, then the human name) or Jesus Christ (the human name then the heavenly title) makes very little difference. What does make a difference is knowing the Jesus Christ (or Christ Jesus) became human to save sinners. To save you. To save me. That's worth worshipping the Lord and Savior, the Christ, forever and ever. Worship him now.

Week 4: WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

Read:

Luke 9:18-20

Reflect & Discuss:

What is Jesus doing here?

Why would Jesus ask this question of his disciples?

How did the disciples answer him?

If you were one of Jesus' disciples, how would you answer him?

Do you sometimes like to point out what others are doing or saying, instead of admitting what you're doing or saying? Is that something Jesus would like to hear from you?

Something to Think About:

Jesus' disciples were with him 24/7. They ate with him, slept with him, worked with him, watched him heal the sick and crippled, drive out demons, raise the dead, argue with the Pharisees, and preach to the masses. Surely they, of all people, knew that this was the promised Messiah. Their Savior. The one sent by God. They knew what everyone was saying about Jesus. They knew the stories and how everyone was looking for a different kind of king, an earthly messiah. But they knew Jesus intimately.

Yet Jesus looked them in the eye and asked "but who do **you** say I am?" He was more interested in them, personally, than his reputation among the masses.

Jesus asks this question of each of us, today, as well. He wants to look us in the eye and ask "but who do you say I am". Not who does your pastor say I am, or who does your best friend say I am, or who does your parents say I am, or who does the theological experts, or latest, greatest Christian author say I am.

Not even who do you **think** I am. But who do you **say** I am. By your words, by your actions.

Each and every one of us needs to be able to look Jesus in the eye and answer his question honestly and personally. We can't let someone else do that for us. We can't expect a half-answer to suffice. We can't hem and haw and beat around the bush, or wait until we're older. How can we answer his question if we don't know him? How can we answer his question if we don't have a personal relationship with him? How can we answer his question if we only rely on others to give us the answers?

I, for one, want to be able to answer as Peter did when he answered "You are the Messiah, sent from God". (*Luke 9:21*) In other words, you are *my* Savior, *my* Christ, *my* Lord, *my* friend. I can only do that if I do, indeed, **know** Jesus. Personally, intimately, fully.



*Are you ready with **your** answer?*