

Happy (Nearly Almost) Christmas!

"What do you love most about Christmas?

"Most of us say, PRESENTS! And probably all the grownups will laugh and want us to say something more spiritual. But actually, do you know what? You're right. That IS the best, most important thing about Christmas. Because you see, Christmas is all about a present-a gift. The greatest, most magnificent gift there has ever been...

"Christmas is very hard to wait for, isn't it? Waiting to pen all those presents—it's so difficult. Especially when you're little. We count down the days. We can't wait.

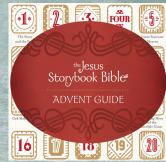
"But do you know how long God's people had to wait for Christmas? How long they had to wait for the gift God promised them? Weeks? No. Months? Um. Longer. They had to wait CENTURIES AND CENTURIES! Can you imagine how excited they were when at last Christmas came?

"The days leading up to Christmas are called "Advent". Advent means the "arrival." It means the long waiting is almost over...

As we wait for Christmas, we'll go on a journey together. We'll read a story every day, decorate the tree, and tell the story of God's Secret Rescue plan—from the very beginning...and wait, along with God's people...

"And on Christmas morning? PRESENTS! And the greatest, most magnificent gift there has ever been—wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manager. Sleeping under the stars that he made. The baby who would rescue the world is born. Happy Christmas!!!

~ Excerpt from *The Jesus Storybook Bible Advent Guide* Introduction by Sally Lloyd-Jones. This is a great free resource for your family to study together! Let Ashley know & she'll print one for each family!



HS Events

- Dec 1 Fellowship
 John Crist Show
 Meet @ 1:30 pm or 4 pm
- Dec 5 Bible Study
 Suitable Helper
 Youth House @ 7pm
- Dec 12 Bible Study Money Management Youth House @ 7pm
- Dec 16 Christmas Program
 Practice @ 4pm
 Program @ 6pm
- Dec 19th Fellowship
 Ice Skating in Champaign
 Church Van @ 6pm

JH Events

- Dec 2 Bible Study: Surrender Youth House @ 3pm
- Dec 16 Christmas Program
 Gift Exchange @ 3pm
 Practice @ 4pm
 Program @ 6pm

Mother and baby are doing well... Both are in a stable condition.



when you're ready for Christmas but you still have to take finals



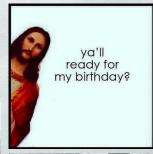


APPEARANCE/AND PERSONALITY



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Funnies











Will the Lord ever leave me?



Memory Verse for the Month

"And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people" Luke 2:10

The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve.

Surprise! Surprise!

It was an Apple.

But with extremely limited memory.

Just 1 byte.

Then everything crashed.

I've never related to anyone more than The Grinch 🦭 👌



December Challenge of the Month: "Tough Topics" by Jim Aitkins

This month, there will be 6 questions for us to think about on your own, as a family, or as a friend group.

Then tell one of us sponsors what conclusion you came to about it.

Which would be BETTER?

- 1) Being a good cook **OR** good artist?
- 2) Failing to climb Mt. Everest **OR** successfully climbing a much smaller peak?
- 3) Being considered rude but generous **OR** smelly but loyal?

Which would be WORSE?

- 1) Losing your memory **OR** losing your friends?
- 2) Being ridiculed on national television OR winning an award that should have gone to someone else?
- 3) Wearing braces on your teeth for 10 years OR on your legs for 1 year?

The Best Conclusion shared with a Sponsor will receive a prize! Ready....Go!