

Jesse Tree  
Adapted from Unwrapping the Greatest Gift by Ann Voskamp

Day 1: The Place Where Love Grows

Read: Isaiah 11:1-2, 10

Thoughts to Discuss

How do you think God wants us to treat all people especially those who may be sick, hungry, without a home or job?

Who in your life needs to know that God loves them?

When have you found hope in a really hard situation?

Family Activities

Think of small ways you can help people this Advent season. Keep a prayer list for the people you want to show love to, and ask God use your small actions to produce great results.

As you hang today's ornament on your Jesse Tree, say a prayer for those in our world who are go without today.

Day 2: Created by Love

Read: Genesis 1:1-5, 26-27

Thoughts to Discuss

What was special the way God created humans?

How do you know God's love for you?

Family Activities

Create something to show your love - cookies, ornaments, or a homemade card. Share with people who may need reminding that they are loved.

As you hang today's ornament on your Jesse Tree, Thank god for loving you.

### Day 3: God Is Looking for You

Read: Genesis 3:6-9

#### Thoughts to Discuss

When you feel like you've made a mistake and you're far away from God, what do you do to ask for God's forgiveness and make amends with someone you may have hurt?

#### Family Activities

Write a letter to God, thanking God for God's unconditional, unchanging love. Keep this letter beside your bed or in your Bible to remind you of God's love.

### Day 4: God's Tears

Noah found favor with the Lord. Genesis 6:8

Read: Genesis 6:5-8

#### Thoughts to Discuss

Have you ever felt God holding you up in a flood? Share how you felt.

Do you know anyone enduring a flood right now? How can you encourage that person to lean toward Jesus?

#### Family Activity

As a family, identify another family you think might be feeling like they're experiencing a "flood" - a time when everything seems to be going wrong. What gifts can you share with this family? Make sure to include a note remind them that God's love can carry them through their storm.

### Day 5: Count the Stars

I will bless you...and you will be a blessing to others. Genesis 12:2

Read: Genesis 12:1-4, 7

#### Thoughts to Discuss

This Advent season start a list of things you are grateful for in your life. Thank God.

#### Family Activities

As a family, go to a neighbor's home. Be a blessing in some way- make a card or a picture, pick up their newspaper to put on their porch.

Look for the stars tonight. Thank God for the promise to bless Abram- and to bless you!

## Day 6: The Gift of Laughter

God has brought me laughter. Genesis 21:6

Read: Genesis 21:1-7

### Thoughts to Discuss

When as the last time you had a big, fizzy laugh? How did that feel?

### Family Activities

Look for three chances today to make three different people laugh with you.

## Day 7: Here I am

Abraham named that place The Lord Provides. Genesis 22:14

Read: Genesis 22:1-2, 11-14

### Thoughts to Discuss

What would it look like for you to trust god with you whole heart today?

### Family Activities

As a family, make a list of ten different ways your family has put their trust in God. Put the piece of paper under the Jesse Tree as a reminder that God's love endures.