

HOPE *is* BORN

ADVENT CHRISTMAS EVE: CHRIST

Scripture Focus:

Luke 2:28–33 (Simeon's Praise)

Devotion Recap:

- Simeon waited faithfully for the Messiah. He did not know when God's promise would come, but he trusted God completely to fulfill His promise.
- When Simeon held Jesus, he knew immediately: This is the promised Savior.
- Simeon essentially said, "Now I'm ready because You have given the greatest gift of all."
- Real hope, peace, joy, and love are not found in gifts, plans, or perfect moments. They are found in Christ alone, our perfect substitute and Savior.
- Christmas Eve reminds us that all our waiting, and all of history's waiting, leads to Jesus.
- Praise God for keeping His promises, for being the source of all hope, peace, joy, and love. Ask Him to grow in you a heart that is willing to trust and follow Him in all things.

Conversation Starters

Use these questions to help your family reflect on Christ.

1. **What do you look forward to on Christmas Eve?**
Why are these moments meaningful?
2. **What Christmas Eve traditions does our family have?**
What do you enjoy most about them?
3. **Why do you think this night feels special—even different—from other nights?**
4. **What were God's people waiting for?**
How is that like our own waiting today?
5. **How do our Christmas Eve traditions point us to Jesus? What is something we could do on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day as a family to focus our attention even more on Christ?**



*see next page for family activities.

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Family Christmas Activities

Each activity connects your family to the theme of Christ as our only source of true hope, peace, joy, love and light. Choose one or try all three.

1. Happy Birthday Jesus Party

Have a birthday party for Jesus! Make a birthday cake, decorate, create a card or sign. As you spend time preparing this party, talk about what it means for hope to be found in Christ alone. Light a candle in the birthday cake and sing “Happy Birthday”, giving thanks that Jesus came to be the light of the world!

2. Favorite Ornament

Have each person choose an ornament on your family tree and explain why it is unique and special to them. Enjoy a time of remembering and conversation. Connect this back to the truth that we are each intentionally designed by God for a purpose. Because Jesus came as our Rescuer, we can be a light in the darkness, pointing others to his hope, peace, joy, and love.

3. Gift to Jesus

What will you give God this year? Each person writes one thing they want to give Jesus this year (i.e. gratitude, obedience, trust, worship, time in His Word, etc.) Place the cards under the tree or in a special box that you can wrap and place under the tree. This can be kept personal or shared together with family.

Worship:

Listen to these Christmas Carols and Worship Songs to go along with this week’s Advent Devotion:

- “Silent Night”
- “O Holy Night”
- “Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)” by We the Kingdom
- “Light of the World” by Lauren Daigle
- “In Christ Alone” by Shane & Shane
- “Christ Be Magnified” by Cody Carnes

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