



DECEMBER 2014

Purposeful Parenting
Connecting Church and Family
Deut.6:7

ADVENT: Make Room for Light

Christmas time's a comin'...

Can you feel the anxiety - I mean, anticipation building? The holiday rush will pick up and pile on the cooking and concerts, the present picking and parties. In a culture that wears busyness with pride, the Christmas season is an opportunity to earn your merit badge. The world begins to spin at a dizzying rate during the holidays, and we can easily get caught up in the crazy.

But Advent...

Advent's different. Advent is an invitation to slow down. Advent calls us to remember the Prince of Peace and why He was given that name. Advent helps us hear the still, small voice again in the middle of the crazy. Our pace of life will undoubtedly quicken this time of year, but if we want to experience life in all the movement, we'll need to embrace moments of reflection as well.

YOU CAN'T LEAD WHERE YOU DON'T GO

Discipleship is happening. Aware or not, intentional or not, we are discipling our children. Our kids learn from our living. They read our rhythms and pick up on our patterns. If in this Advent season we are to lead our children to experience the life Jesus was born to bring us, a life abounding with hope, peace, joy and love, we will need to experience that life ourselves.

Make room personally to receive Christ, to welcome His presence daily. Set aside some space for God to quiet and direct your heart, soul, mind and strength. Ask Him to fill and empower you to experience His life in the bustle of Christmas and lead your children to do the same.



LIGHT A CANDLE

Each Sunday evening for the four weeks leading up to Christmas, our family lights a candle. This is an easy way to walk your family through Advent. There are plenty of DIY ideas for this out there, but regardless of how swanky your setup is, it boils down to 5 candles. Ours is simple. We have a block of wood with 5 holes drilled into it. We use white candles and light from the outside in, alternating sides each week so that we end up lighting the middle candle on Christmas day.

We like to read a short Scripture passage on the theme of the week, ask our boys a question, and then pray as we light the candle. Realistically, this takes 5-10 minutes if your kids are young, or you can spend more time on it if your kids are older. The important thing is to set that rhythm of remembering and reflecting, prayer and thanksgiving.

[Continue here for some suggested Scripture readings, questions and prayers](#), as well as some links to Advent devotionals that you can download and do with your family this season. We hope that these resources help your family to begin or continue a rhythm of Advent this year. Make room for the Light.

Seth Primm, Mosaic Worship Pastor

Resources

Advent: Make room for the Light

Advent Links

[Advent Devotional Guide](#)

[Family Advent Calendar](#)

[Family Advent Packet](#)

Fun Ideas

[Christmas Activities](#)

What's Happening?

Calendar of Events: December

December 3rd: Cell Worship for Mosaic Students, 7th-12th Grade. 6:30-8:30 pm, Student Center

December 5th: NEXT GEN Night, Students 7th-12th grade will worship with their families at 5:00 and 6:45 pm in the Worship Center.

December 10th & 17th: Mosaic Students Townhouses, 6:30-8:30 pm. No Townhouses on December 24th or 31st.

December 13th: Slugs and Bugs Concert 5:00-6:15 pm. Student Center West. For preschool-6th grade. Contact Matt Noetzel for more information.

December 13th: Fellowship Christmas Services at 5:00 and 6:45 pm. Worship Center.

December 24th: Fellowship/Mosaic Christmas Eve services. Check online for times.

December 27th: Mosaic Family Service, Worship Center 5:00 pm ONLY. Children birth-high school will worship with their families.

Stay Connected



[Early Childhood](#) / [Elementary](#) / [Students](#)

Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

- Deuteronomy 6:7

