

INTENTIONAL CHRISTMAS

This Advent experience is designed to help you engage your family spiritually while also connecting through our intentional activity countdown.

KNOWN LEGACY

INTENTIONAL CHRISTMAS

A FAMILY ADVENT

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FOR MORE INFO GO TO
www.knownlegacy.org

INTENTIONAL CHRISTMAS

Thank you for choosing to be a part of **Known Legacy's Intentional Christmas!** This advent is two-fold, to provide an opportunity for you to engage your family spiritually as well as connect practically through the activity countdown. We firmly believe in engaging your family no matter what season you are in, and to look for practical and deliberate ways to encourage, lift up, and empower those who are closest to you. We all have those holiday parties, gifts to buy, and Christmas gatherings to attend but let's **CHOOSE** to be **INTENTIONAL** along the way. We can do this by pressing the brakes during one of the busiest seasons ever, and pausing to be purposely focused with our families this holiday season. Let's put the spotlight back on Christ through our daily scripture reading and fun creative ways we can connect and engage with our children this holiday season.

To Get Started:

Print out the Scripture reading guide.

Print out the activity countdown*- these are meaningful ways to engage your kids along with fun activities for all ages.

Blank cards are also included so you are able to customize your own activities.

Cut out each activity card and use them to develop 25 days of focused connections with your children (Yes, making special hot cocoa with whipped cream and sprinkles is a way to be intentional to slow down & connect with your kids.)

*I recommend printing on cardstock so you can use them year after year

Here is where you can make this work for you. The following are a few options for the countdown:

- 1.) You can hang each of the Advent squares across your fireplace, or backwards on a wall so they can't be seen. Then each day a child gets to flip one over.
- 2.) You can stick them in little bags, stockings, or mini envelopes and hang them up in the house.
- 3.) You can use a pre made advent calendar where you hide a printed square in it that they open each day.
- 4.) You can have the "elf on the shelf" give them a new one each day.
- 5.) You can simply leave it on the breakfast table each morning.

Parents, we understand that life is busy and plans change, that's where the "enjoy a special treat" Advent cards come in super handy! You may want to have some Christmas pencils/pens, a cute Christmas candy, or a fun after school drive-thru run at Sonic or Starbucks on the ready when one of the special treat cards is pulled. ANYTHING can be turned into a special treat! Do whatever MAKES SENSE for the season of life you are currently in. The whole goal of this activity is to provide an opportunity for you to ENGAGE YOUR CHILD. If you already know you have a Christmas parade you are attending make that the countdown activity for that day.

These activities are stress free, simple, and are meant to create opportunities for you to connect with your kids regardless of their age or season of life. We have provided more than 25 options as well as blank cards so you can be the most successful. Let's slow down and connect with those who are most important to us this holiday season.

Be Sure to Follow & Tag us on Social Media @knownlegacy

HOPE: a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

Hope

Day 1: Hope in the Truth

Read: John 1:1-5, John 1:14-18, Is. 60:1, 1 John 1:5-7

Discuss: Hope in the truth - what can we put our hope in?



Day 2: The Light

Read: Isaiah 9:1-7



Discuss: Do we believe that Jesus is the Hope of the World? How can we see that Jesus is the only Hope?

Day 3: Sharing the Hope

Read: John 1:6-9, 1 Pet 2:9

Discuss: What are some ways we can share the hope of Jesus in our family?

Day 4: Hope to the Nations

Read: Isaiah 11:1-10



Discuss: What are some ways we can share the hope of Jesus to those around us?

Day 5: Promises Fulfilled

Read: Jeremiah 33:14-16



Discuss: What is a promise of God that you can hope in?

Day 6: The Only Hope

Read: John 14:1-14

Discuss: How can we hope in God when we feel hopeless?

Day 7: The Hope Within Us

Read: John 14:15-31



Discuss: Do we trust God with our future? How can we show him that we trust Him?

PEACE: freedom from disturbance; tranquility.

Peace

Day 8: Peace Rules

Read: Colossians 3:15-17



Discuss: Does peace rule your heart? What does a peaceful Spirit look like?

Day 9: Choose Peace

Read: Romans 8:5-11

Discuss: How do we let the Spirit of God lead us towards peace?



Day 10: Peace is a Gift

Read: John 14:27

Discuss: What is a gift? What should we do with peace if it is a gift from God?

Day 11: Accepting Peace

Read: Phillipians 4:4-7

Discuss: According to the above Scripture, what do we have to do to get God's peace?

Day 12: Peace is an Action

Read: Hebrews 12:14, Proverbs 12:20



Discuss: What are some ways we can show a spirit of peace to our family?

Day 13: Peace is Trusting Something Bigger Than Yourself

Read: John 16:33

Discuss: What are some ways we can show a spirit of peace to those around us outside of our family?

Day 14: Peace Empowers Us

Read: Hebrews 13:20-21



Discuss: How are you trading your sorrows for God's peace?

Joy

JOY: a feeling of great pleasure and happiness.

Day 15: Joy Comes Forth

Read: Luke 2:1-7



Discuss: What does joy look like in us as followers of Christ? Is joy different than happy and if so, how?

Day 16: Stirring Joy

Read: Luke 2:8-14

Discuss: How can we continue to have an attitude and spirit of joy?

Day 17: Take Action in Joy

Read: Luke 2:15-20

Discuss: How do we spread joy to others?



Day 18: Joy Honors

Read: Matthew 2:1-12

Discuss: Who is someone we can share the joy of the Lord with today or this week? Take some time to pray for that individual and come up with a way to impact them this week.

Day 19: Joy for the Future

Read: Luke 1:5-58

Discuss: What are ways we can continue to have joy in difficult times?

Day 20: Joy in God's Character

Read: John 10:1-18



Discuss: What are the characteristics of God? How can we apply them to our lives?

Day 21: Joy Is An Act of Worship

Read: Psalm 98



Discuss: What are ways we can trust in God's character?

LOVE: an intense feeling of deep affection.

love

Day 22: Love is Patient

Read: 1 Corinthians 13:1-6



Discuss: What are ways you can be more patient in your life with others?



Day 23: Love is Selfless

Read: Isaiah 53



Discuss: What does selfless love look like?

Day 24: God Loves The World

Read: John 3:16, John 1:14, John 8:12

Discuss: What are ways that God shows his love to us?

Day 25: Christmas Morning - God is Love

Read: 1 John 4:9-11



Discuss: Thank God for his love for us and the world.



MERRY



Christmas

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

For a New Year's
Family Bucket List
& NYE Countdown

SCAN
ME



**CANDY
TASTE
TEST**



**PAINT
CHRISTMAS
ROCKS**


**MAKE
HOT
COCOA**

**LIVING
ROOM
PICNIC**


**WATCH A
CHRISTMAS MOVIE
WITH POPCORN &
CANDY**

**SODA
TASTE
TEST**


**DO AN ACT OF
KINDNESS FOR
SOMEONE ELSE**

**LEAVE
PAINTED
ROCKS IN
A PARK**


**TAKE A
NEIGHBORHOOD
WALK TO LOOK AT
LIGHTS**


**MAKE TREATS FOR
NEIGHBORS OR
FRIENDS**

**DECORATE
GINGERBREAD
HOUSES**

 **FAMILY**
 **GAME**
 **NIGHT**



**COLLECT
ITEMS TO
DONATE**

**WRITE
CHRISTMAS
CARDS**



**FAMILY
DINNER
NIGHT**

**DRIVE
AROUND &
SEE LIGHTS**

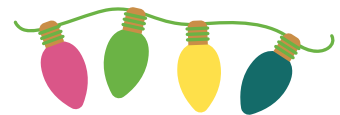


**READ A
CHRISTMAS BOOK
TOGETHER**

**LEAVE
SOMEONE AN
ENCOURAGING
NOTE
(SECRETLY)**



**DONATE
FOOD TO
THE FOOD
BANK**



**GO TO A
HOLIDAY EVENT**



**BAKE
CHRISTMAS
COOKIES**

**MAKE A
CHRISTMAS
PLAYLIST**



**CHRISTMAS
MOVIE
WITH DAD**



**MAKE A
CHRISTMAS
CRAFT**

**CHRISTMAS
PANCAKES
FOR DINNER**



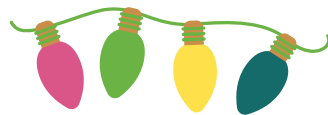
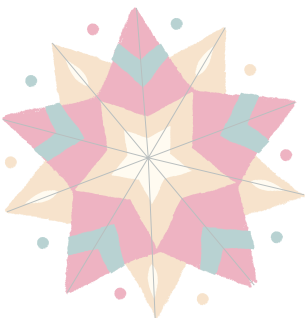
**MAKE A
CHRISTMAS
ORNAMENT**

**MAKE
GRINCH
PUNCH**



**ENJOY A
SPECIAL
TREAT**

**ENJOY A
SPECIAL
TREAT**



ACTIVITY COUNTDOWN

Print & Cut Out Activity Squares:

- 1.) You can hang each of the Advent squares across your fireplace, or backwards on a wall so they can't be seen. Then each day a child gets to flip one over.
- 2.) You can stick them in little bags, stockings, or mini envelopes and hang them up in the house.
- 3.) You can use a pre made advent calendar where you hide a printed square in it that they open each day.
- 4.) You can have the "elf on the shelf" give them a new one each day.
- 5.) You can simply leave it on the breakfast table each morning.

Pro Tip Print out a blank calendar for the month, write down all the scheduled activities you already know about and use our cards for the appropriate days. If you know you already have a holiday party on Dec. 5th then I would use the "Attend A Christmas Party" for that days activity. Fill in the blanks with all remaining countdown activities so you will know for the whole month what is needed. It makes it easy & stress free.

I also like to add the number on the back of the activity to coincide with the day of the month so it's easy to keep up with. Visit @knownlegacy & checkout what we have done over the years for inspiration!

Activity Countdown Suggestions:

Candy Taste Test: Get a variety of candies to try. Maybe it's a box of chocolates or nostalgic candies from your childhood. Try them together & see which you like & don't like & rank them from best to worst.

Soda Taste Test: Get a variety of sodas to try. Could even do one type of soda such as root beer & buy a bunch of different varieties. Try them together & see which you like & don't like & rank them from best to worst.

Living Room Picnic: Spread out a blanket on the floor and have lunch or dinner in the living room, maybe watching a classic Christmas cartoon or listening to some Christmas music.

Leave Someone an Encouraging Note (secretly): Write a note for a classmate, a sibling, a parent & leave it for them without letting them know who did it.

Enjoy a Special Treat: This can be your backup for when those days are crazy busy & It could be something as simple as a cookie, time with a friend, screen time, an extra book at bed time...etc.

Blank Cards: These are great to create some of your own activities or treats! Some of the ones we have created over the years include: go out to dinner, chickfila night, go ice skating, have a playdate, go to the library...etc.

Since our kids are teens now I love to sneak in things like \$5-\$10 gift cards for coffee or chickfila.

Grinch Punch Recipe:

Ingredients Needed:

- Lime Sherbert
- Green Hawaiian Punch
- Sprite

- 1.) Add a scoop of lime sherbert to a glass
- 2.) Pour half full of Hawaiian punch over sherbert
- 3.) Top off with Sprite

Optional: Serve in a clear plastic cup, draw a red heart or add a red heart sticker to the side of the cup for the “grinch heart”

Christmas Pancakes Recipe:

Ingredients Needed:

- Pancake Mix (made according to the directions)
- Whipped Cream
- Green & Red Christmas Sprinkles

- 1.) Make Pancakes according to directions if using a box mix or homemade
- 2.) Top with whipped cream & Christmas Sprinkles

Optional: Mix in a little red & green food coloring to the pancake batter to make red & green pancakes.

Nanny's PB Blossoms

Ingredients Needed:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| • ½ c sugar | • 2 T Milk |
| • ½ c packed brown sugar | • 1 t sp. Vanilla |
| • ½ c butter | • ¾ c sifted flour |
| • ½ c creamy peanut butter | • 1 tsp. salt |
| • 1 egg | • 110oz. pkg hersey kisses |

- 1.) Cream together sugars, butter & peanut butter until well mixed
- 2.) Beat in egg, milk & vanilla
- 3.) Sift together sifted flour, baking soda, & salt
- 4.) Stir into wet batter mixture
- 5.) Shape into small balls; roll in additional granulated sugar.
- 6.) Place on an ungreased cookie sheet; bake at 375 degrees for 10-12 minutes, until lightly golden on the edges. Remove candy wrappers while the cookies bake.
- 7.) Immediately press an unwrapped candy kiss into each cookie when removing from the oven.