



WEEK 1 LESSON OVERVIEW

Jesus is the promised Savior.

BIBLE STORY

The Promise of a Great Light (Isaiah 9:2–7)

KEY DISCOVERY

God promised a Child who would bring light to people in darkness, and God keeps His promises.

TAKEAWAY

I can hope in God, because He always keeps His promises.

MEMORY VERSE

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

— John 3:16 (BSB)

AT A GLANCE

	Introduction Game	5 minutes	page 3
	Object Lesson	5 minutes	page 4
	Bible Story	15 minutes	page 5
	Candle Talk Discussion & Prayer	5–10 minutes	page 10
	Craft Activity	10–15 minutes	page 11

♥ PREPARE YOUR HEART

Read Isaiah 9:2–7. Being a parent is waiting and hoping, then waiting some more. So is teaching kids. God put each child in your room for a reason, and He keeps His promises. Where are you still waiting on Him? Pray for each child by name, and ask God to hold their attention today. **Tony Kummer**



BONUS TEACHER RESOURCES & SUGGESTED VIDEOS

Video Bible stories and songs.
sundayschool.works/?p=31863#week-1



SEE THE FULL SERIES

All five weeks, ready to print.
sundayschool.store/advent-kids



Week 1 – Supply List

Already made for you. Just print.

- ☐ **Teacher Edition, once.** Your copy of the whole lesson, with the teaching picture (page 19).



Picture

- ☐ **Student Handouts, one set per child:** the coloring page, the puzzle page, Level 1 and Challenge, the take-home page and the tracing page for younger writers.



Coloring



Puzzle page



Take-home



Tracing

- ☐ **Memory verse poster, once** (Series Overview, page 5).



Poster

Have available every week

- ☐ Your own Bible (the verses are also printed in the lesson).
- ☐ Crayons (one box per three children)

Gather

Object Lesson — The Promise Box

- ☐ A small box (1)
- ☐ Wrapping paper or newspaper, and tape
- ☐ A star ornament (or a big star drawn on paper)

Craft Activity — Four Names Card

- ☐ Dark blue construction paper (1 per child, plus 3 spares)
- ☐ Yellow copy paper (1 per child, plus 2 for you)
- ☐ White copy paper (1 sheet for every 2 children, plus 2 extra)
- ☐ Glue sticks (one per two children)
- ☐ Markers (one tub per table)
- ☐ Scissors

Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, Berean Standard Bible (BSB), which has been dedicated to the public domain.





Great Light!

BEFORE CLASS

Clear a space where everyone can crouch with room to stretch both arms. Early arrivals and early finishers: the coloring page.

OLDER KIDS

Older kids say Isaiah's words with you after every "A great light!": The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

**SAY**

Welcome to Advent! For the next five weeks we're getting ready to celebrate that Jesus came. Let's start with a game.

Find a spot where you can stretch both arms wide. Now crouch down small. Cover your eyes with both hands, and stay still. It's dark.

"Walking in darkness..." When I call that, stay crouched and still. "A great light!" When I call that, spring up, throw your arms wide and open your eyes!

I might try to trick you. If you pop up on a trick, just crouch again. Ready? Walking in darkness... A great light! The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

Crouch back down, eyes covered. Walking in darkness... A great... lunchbox! Walking in darkness... A great light! The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.



(Play three more rounds, slower each time, with one more trick.)

Last round. Crouch down small, eyes covered. Walking in darkness... Walking in darkness... God promised a great light! That light is Jesus!

DEBRIEF

You didn't make that light. You just saw it. Today we'll hear how God promised a great light, and kept His promise.





The Promise Box

**SUPPLIES
NEEDED**

- ☐ A small box (1)
- ☐ Wrapping paper or newspaper, and tape
- ☐ A star ornament (or a big star drawn on paper)

**BEFORE
CLASS**

Put the star in the box and wrap the box, about 5 minutes.



(Have the children stand in a half circle around the table, close enough to see.)

**SAY**

Look at this box. You can't see inside. Not even a peek.



(Hold the wrapped box up high.)

I promise there is something good in here. You'll see it before we're done.

So how do you know something good is in there? You can't see it. You can't hear it. You know because I said so. You're trusting my promise.

Waiting for something good, because the one who promised keeps his word? That's called hope.



(Pause a few seconds to build anticipation. Then tear off the paper and open the box.)
(Hold the star up high.)

I promised, and I kept my word. God promised a great light, and He kept His word.

Today we'll meet Isaiah in the book of Isaiah.

Let's say it together:

ALL TOGETHER

Jesus is the promised Savior.

Jesus is the great Light God promised.





The Promise of a Great Light (Isaiah 9:2–7)

≡ SUMMARY

God gave the prophet Isaiah a promise for His people in a hard, dark time. People walking in darkness would see a great light, because a Child would be born, called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His kingdom of peace would never end, and God Himself would make it happen.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- ☐ The teaching picture (page 19)
- ☐ Memory verse poster (Series Overview, page 5)
- ☐ Your own Bible (the verses are also printed in the lesson).

BEFORE CLASS

Set the teaching picture face down near your Bible. If your church names its Advent candles differently, use your church's name for today's candle. Still teach these weeks in this order. Every week points to Jesus.

✦ KEY DISCOVERY

God promised a Child who would bring light to people in darkness, and God keeps His promises.

💡 TAKEAWAY

I can hope in God, because He always keeps His promises.

🗨️ **SAY** This week's Advent candle is the Hope candle.

Advent means "coming." For the next five weeks we're getting ready to celebrate that Jesus came, and remembering that He will come again!

Five weeks, five stories, and every one points to Jesus.

Here's our call: when I say "Who is the Light?" you answer "Jesus is the Light!" and freeze. Let's try it. Who is the Light?

💬 **KIDS** **Jesus is the Light!**

📖 BIBLE BACKGROUND

Isaiah was one of God's prophets. Just before today's verses, Isaiah names the land of Galilee, Galilee of the nations. Many years later, Jesus grew up and lived in Galilee.

🗨️ **SAY** This week's Bible passage is a promise. God gave it to a prophet named Isaiah. A prophet is someone God gives a message to tell His people. Isaiah lived about seven hundred years before Jesus was born.





- SAY** Isaiah lived in a hard, dark time. Many of God's people had turned from God, and strong enemies were close by.



(Hold up the teaching picture: Isaiah Telling God's People a Promise.)

Here is Isaiah, holding his scroll. And here are God's people, listening. Look at their faces. Some of them look sad and tired.

Now find the girl. Do you see her? She is looking up.

Isaiah has a promise from God to tell them. Listen to the very first part.



Teaching picture
page 19

READ

ISAIAH 9:2 (BSB)

² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death, a light has dawned.

- SAY** God's people were living in a sad, scary time, and many had turned away from God. That's what walking in darkness means. God promised a light would come.

Now listen to how Isaiah says it. The people have seen a great light. A light has dawned.

Isaiah talks as if the light is already here! That's how sure God's promise is. When God says it, it's as good as done.



(Look down at the floor. Then slowly look up high.)

Look down at the floor with me. Dark and gloomy. Now slowly look up. Higher. Higher.

Dawned means the first light of morning, when the dark starts to go. The dark doesn't get the last word. God's light does.

So what would this light bring? Isaiah keeps going.

READ

ISAIAH 9:3 (BSB)

³ You have enlarged the nation and increased its joy.





 **SAY** Isaiah also promised that God would break the heavy load off His people and one day end war.

Enlarged means made bigger. God would make His people grow. And He would give them more joy, not less.

More people. More joy. No more heavy load. That's a huge promise.

So who could ever do all that? A great king with a giant army? Somebody tall and strong and scary?

Listen. God's answer is a surprise.

 **READ**

ISAIAH 9:6 (BSB)

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government will be upon His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.



(Rock your arms like you are holding a tiny baby.)

 **SAY** Isaiah gave this Child four names. Wonderful Counselor: He always knows what to do. Mighty God: He is God Himself. Everlasting Father: He cares for His people forever. Prince of Peace: He brings peace with God.

① ONLY IF A CHILD ASKS

If a child asks whether Jesus is God, God's Son or God the Father, say: "Jesus is God the Son. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are one God. That's a big mystery, and it's true. 'Everlasting Father' means Jesus cares for His people forever." If no one asks, move on.

 **SAY** Did you catch the surprise? Not an army. Not a giant. A child. A baby, born. A Son, given. Given, like a gift from God to His people.



(Pat both of your shoulders.)

Pat your shoulders with me. The government will be on His shoulders. That means He will be the King.

A King who starts out as a baby. Only God would think of that!





SAY Now, how long will this King rule? Listen for two little words: no end. And listen for who will make it all happen.

READ

ISAIAH 9:7 (BSB)

7 Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish and sustain it with justice and righteousness from that time and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of Hosts will accomplish this.

SAY God's people waited a long, long time. Then God kept this promise. That Child is Jesus.

No end. His kingdom will never stop. It is fair and right, forever.

And who makes sure it all happens? Not Isaiah. Not God's people. The LORD Himself.

When God makes a promise, He keeps it. Every single time.



GOSPEL CONNECTION

SAY

Isaiah promised a Child who would be called Mighty God and Prince of Peace. God's people waited and waited.

Then Jesus was born in Bethlehem. God kept His promise. The Child Isaiah talked about is Jesus, God's own Son.

Jesus grew up. He died on the cross for our sins. Then He rose again, alive forever.

Jesus is the Light who came to bring people back to God.

Everyone who trusts Him has peace with God and life with Him forever. It cost Jesus everything. It costs you nothing.

Trusting Jesus means resting your hope on the Savior God promised, not on anything you can do.

God promised a great light, and He sent Jesus. That is good news.





 **SAY** Let's say it together:

ALL TOGETHER

Jesus is the promised Savior.

Our memory verse for this series is John 3:16. It tells why God sent the Child Isaiah promised.

Let's say our memory verse together:

MEMORY VERSE

“For God so loved the world
that He gave His one and only Son,
that everyone who believes in Him
shall not perish but have eternal life.”
— John 3:16 (BSB)

‘Eternal life’ means life with God that never ends. Next week we’ll hear Jesus say these words Himself.





Candle Talk

 **SAY** Scoot in close, everybody. Let's talk about our story.

1

God's people were living in a sad, scary time. What did God promise them through Isaiah?

Leader note: a great light, and a Child, a Son, whose kingdom of peace would never end.

2

God's people waited a long, long time, and then God kept His promise. What does that tell us about God?

Leader note: push toward meaning: God always keeps His promises, even the ones that take a long time.

3

Jesus is the promise God kept. The Holy Spirit helps everyone who trusts Jesus wait with hope. When waiting is hard this week, what can you remember about God?

Leader note: God keeps His promises; Jesus came and is with everyone who trusts Him. Never promise they will get what they want.

 **SAY** Maybe you're waiting on something hard right now. Maybe it's taking a long time. You can bring it to God. Even when what we hope for doesn't happen, God's promise holds. Jesus came. He is with everyone who trusts Him.

Tell God quietly what you're waiting for. Sad prayers count too.



(Pause for a moment.)

Let's pray together. You can repeat after me.

Dear God,
Thank You that You always keep Your promises.
Thank You for sending Jesus, the great Light.
Help us wait with hope and hold on to You.
In Jesus' Name, Amen.

God promised a great light, and He sent Jesus. Every promise He makes, He keeps.





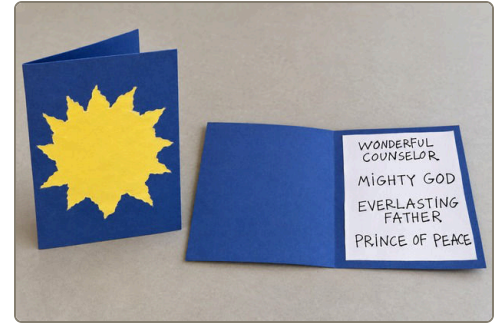
Four Names Card

**SUPPLIES
NEEDED**

- ☐ Dark blue construction paper (1 per child, plus 3 spares)
- ☐ Yellow copy paper (1 per child, plus 2 for you)
- ☐ White copy paper (1 sheet for every 2 children, plus 2 extra)
- ☐ Glue sticks (one per two children)
- ☐ Markers (one tub per table)
- ☐ Scissors

**BEFORE
CLASS**

Before Sunday: Cut the white sheets in half.
For younger writers, cut the tracing page in half. Make one finished sample.



(Hold up the finished sample card.)

**SAY**

You are making a folded blue card with a paper light on the front. We call it the Four Names Card.



*(Hand out one blue sheet, one yellow sheet, one white half-sheet each.)
(Hand younger writers a tracing half-sheet instead.)
(Fold your own sheet in half where everyone can see.)*

Fold your blue paper in half, like a book. Press the fold flat.

Dark blue, like a dark night. Isaiah's people lived in a sad, dark time.

But God made them a promise. A great light was coming!





(Tear a light from a spare yellow sheet, slowly.)



SAY

Pick up your yellow paper. Tear it into a big round light.

Tear little points all around the edge. Those are the rays.



(Set one glue stick between every two children.)

Rub glue on the back of your light. Press it on the front of your card.

Now open your card. Glue the white paper on the right side.



(Set a marker tub on each table.)

Isaiah said a Child would come. God gave that Child four names.



(Point to each name on your sample as you read it.)

Write them with a marker, one under the other.

WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

MIGHTY GOD

EVERLASTING FATHER

PRINCE OF PEACE

Gray letters on your paper? Trace right over them.

God's people waited a long, long time. Then God kept His promise.

That Child is Jesus. He is the great light God promised.



(Say this line with them.)

Jesus is the promised Savior.

Close your card. Turn it over. Write your name on the back with a marker.

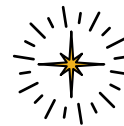
God always keeps His promises. You can hope in Him.

Take your card home. Open it and read the four names to someone.



Jesus is the promised Savior.

(Isaiah 9:2-7)



KIDS • AGES 6-12



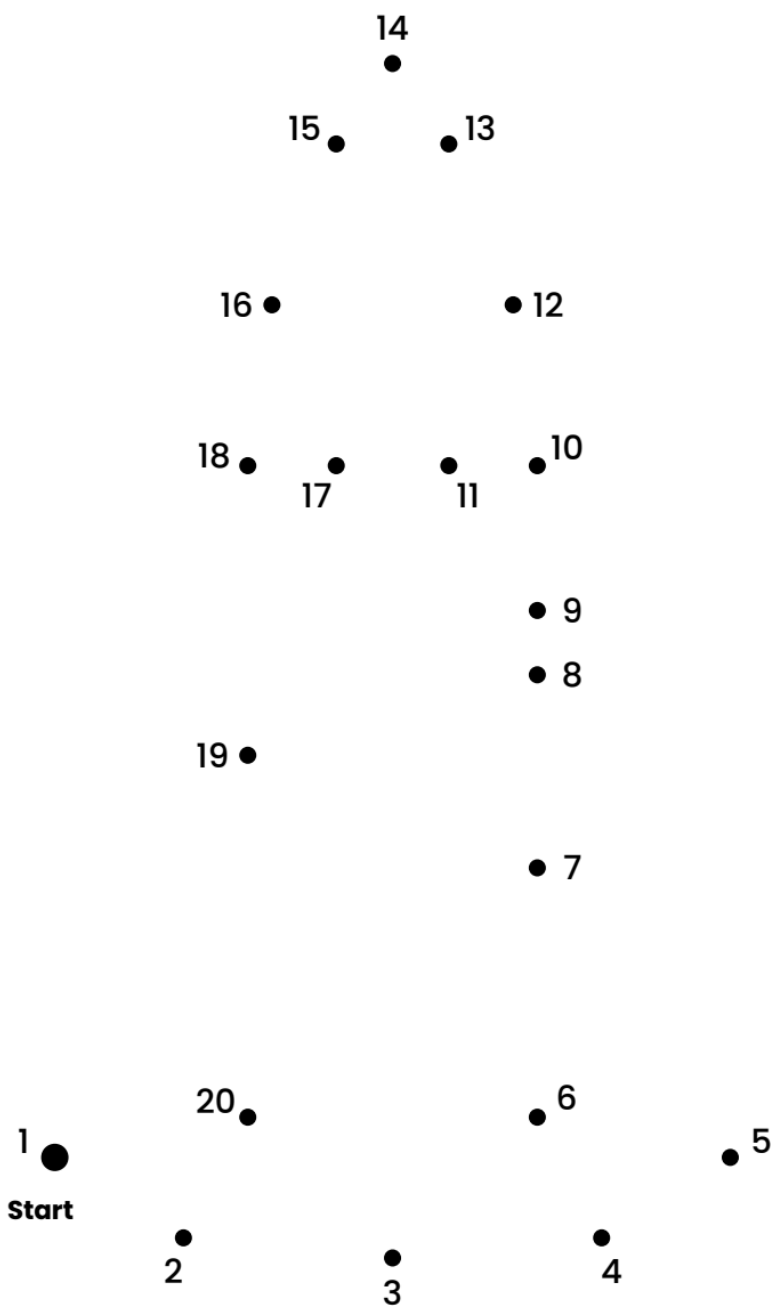
Connect the Dots

Week 1 · The Promise of a Great Light (Isaiah 9:2-7)

LEVEL 1

KIDS · AGES 6-12

Connect the dots from 1 to 20. Then join 20 back to 1. Draw light shining all around it!



KEEP TALKING

This week, ask your child: What is the hardest thing to wait for?



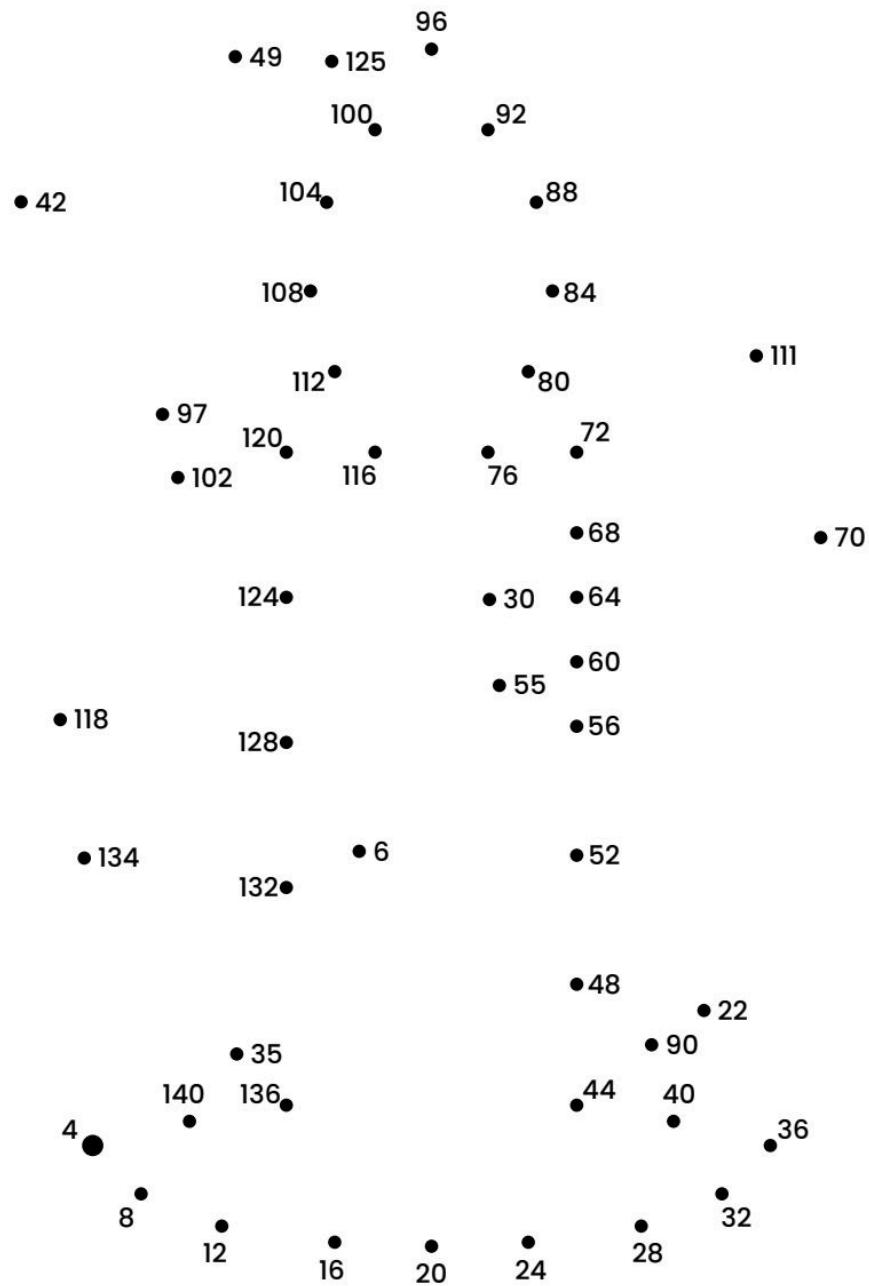
Connect the Dots

Week 1 · The Promise of a Great Light (Isaiah 9:2-7)

CHALLENGE

KIDS · AGES 6-12

Count by 4s from 4 to 140. Skip any number that is not a 4s number. Then join 140 back to 4 and draw light shining all around it!



KEEP TALKING

This week, ask your child: What is the hardest thing to wait for?



Parent Take-Home Page

Week 1 · Advent for Kids



FROM TODAY'S CLASS

The Promise of a Great Light (Isaiah 9)

Today we heard God's promise through Isaiah: a Child would come like a great light. That Child is Jesus, born at Christmas to die for our sins and rise again. **Next week:** a man named Nicodemus comes to Jesus at night with a big question.

We're glad your child was with us, and glad to be on your team.

TALK TOGETHER THIS WEEK

What is the hardest thing to wait for?

Everyone answers, grown-ups too.

You can add: God's people waited hundreds of years for Jesus, and God kept His promise.

PRAY TOGETHER

Dear God,
thank You for keeping Your promises
and sending Jesus, our great Light.
In Jesus' name, amen.



THIS WEEK I LEARNED

I can hope in God, because He always keeps His promises.

OUR VERSE FOR ALL OF ADVENT

"For God so loved the world
that He gave His one and only Son,
that everyone who believes in Him
shall not perish but have eternal life."

— John 3:16 (BSB)



WONDERFUL
COUNSELOR

MIGHTY GOD

EVERLASTING
FATHER

PRINCE OF
PEACE

CUT HERE

WONDERFUL
COUNSELOR

MIGHTY GOD

EVERLASTING
FATHER

PRINCE OF
PEACE



Level 1 for children who can count to 20; Challenge for children who can count by 4s.
Check with the key.

Answer Key: Connect the Dots

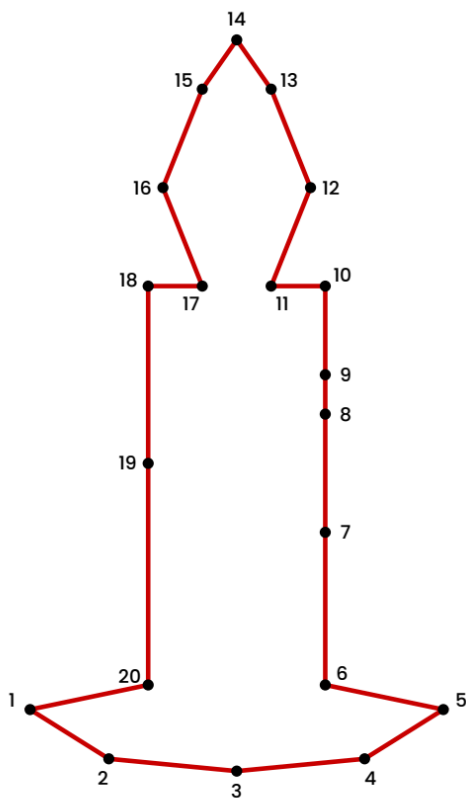
Week 1 · The Promise of a Great Light (Isaiah 9:2-7)

TEACHER PAGE

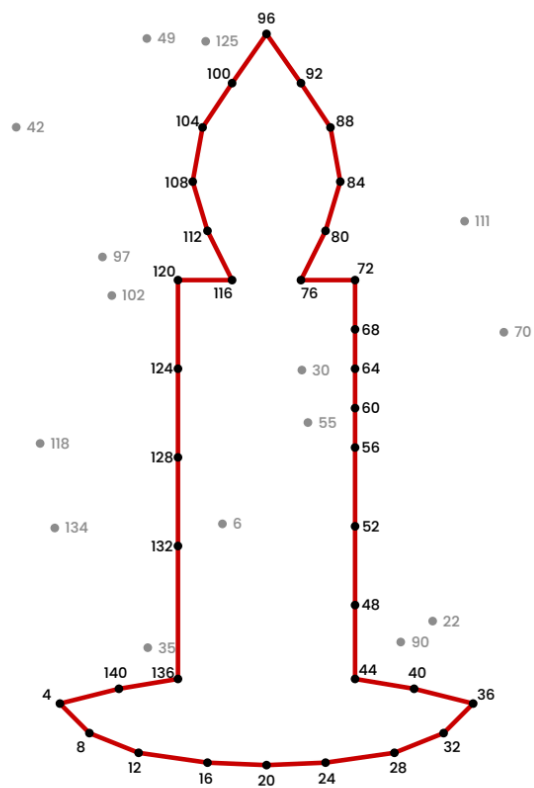
Which page for which child

Level 1: children who can count to 20. Challenge: children who can count by 4s; the extra numbers are decoys to skip. Early finishers: draw the light and write "Jesus is the Light" under the candle.

Level 1 (1 to 20)



Challenge (count by 4s, 4 to 140)



The finished picture is a candle with its flame: a great light (Isaiah 9:2). On the Challenge, the gray numbers are decoys to skip.







MEMORY VERSE

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

John 3:16
(BSB)



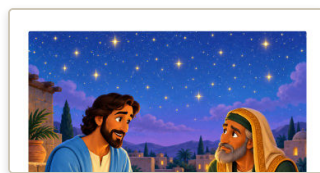


The Next Four Sundays Are Ready.

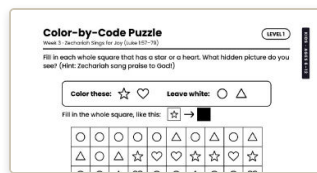
This free lesson is Week 1 of Advent for Kids. The full series teaches, in order, from Isaiah's promise to the wise men worshipping Jesus:

WEEK 2	Jesus and Nicodemus
WEEK 3	Zechariah Sings for Joy
WEEK 4	Jesus Is Born
WEEK 5	The Wise Men Worship Jesus

Start Week 1 on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. Week 5 is the Sunday on or just after Christmas.



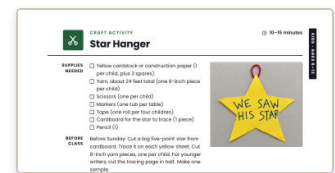
Week 2 · teaching picture



Week 3 · puzzle page



Week 4 · coloring page



Week 5 · craft

In the full download:

- ✓ All 5 lessons as print-ready PDFs
- ✓ Print it all at once: one file with all five lessons, and one with every student page
- ✓ A teaching picture, coloring page, puzzle page and craft every week
- ✓ A parent take-home page every week, and a John 3:16 memory verse poster
- ✓ Print as many copies as your ministry needs. Files never expire.

One room with a wide age range? Start with the Kids edition. Every craft has a tracing page for younger writers.



See the full series.

\$65 for the Kids edition (ages 6–12).

sundayschool.store/advent-kids

Younger children (ages 3–5) too? There's a Preschool edition with the same five stories.

Teaching every week, not just Advent? The All-Access Pass: one payment, lifetime access to every series we make, including every new one. sundayschool.store/all-access

✉ **Questions?** Email support@sundayschool.store.

A real person reads every one.

Thank you for serving God's children.

Tony Kummer

Founder & Editor, The Sunday School Store

