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# ADVENT 1

## A WEARY WORLD REJOICES

### **Light one candle on your Advent wreath**

If you don't have an Advent wreath, any candle will work. Designate a space in your home to do your weekly family devotions. Let this sacred space be a place of rest and renewal for your family.

### **Prayer – Ask a family member to lead in prayer**

God of Hope,

Advent is a time of waiting.

Waiting for Christmas, for family, for joy.

Help us to be patient as we wait. Remind us to be still and hear again Jesus' story.

A story of hope and love birthed into the world for all people.

Amen

### **Read together** - Matthew 1:18-25

### **Questions to discuss**

1) The angel appears to Joseph, telling him "Do not be afraid." When was a time you felt afraid? What was something that brought you comfort?

2) Jesus is referred to as Emmanuel, "God with us." What do you think it meant for the people of Jesus' time to welcome Jesus into the world? What does it mean for you today?

### **Sing together** "Away in the Manger"

Away in a manger

No crib for a bed

The little Lord Jesus

Laid down His sweet head

The stars in the bright sky

Looked down where He lay

The little Lord Jesus

Asleep on the hay

**Blessing** Name each family member as you say the blessing to them.  
(Name), God is with you in the waiting. You are loved today and always.

