HOW TO USE THESE PLANS

Thanks so much for downloading our Advent Morning Time plans. Our hope is that these plans will guide you as you do Morning Time with your family. While they can be followed to the letter, they are much better adapted to your family’s preferences and needs. Move subjects around, add your own special projects, or leave subjects out entirely. These are meant to be helpful, not stressful.

The poems, prayer, and memorization sheets in this introductory section can be copied multiple times for your memory work binders. Feel free to print as many as you need. The SQUILT “Draw What You Hear” page is used with permission. You may make copies for your family.

SUBJECT BY SUBJECT

Prayer - Read the entire prayer on the first day of the week. Have children recite with you what they know. Each day after that, read the section indicated a couple of times and have children repeat after you. Review the entire prayer on the optional review day.

Memorization - We have chosen scripture to memorize that corresponds to the selections we are using for music appreciation each week from The Messiah. Your children may recognize their memory work within the lyrics. The first selection is longer but if you review it some past the first week they may surprise you with what they remember.

Use call and repeat to memorize passages. Simply say a short piece and have your child repeat it back. They will surprise you at how quickly they learn. Listen to Your Morning Basket Episode 2 for more memorization help or try a new memory technique by listening to Your Morning Basket Episode 24.

Poetry - Read the poem with your family. Enjoy. You might also:

- Have them close their eyes and after the reading tell what they pictured in their mind.
- Draw a picture to go with the poem.
- Ask what was their favorite part.
- Ask what was their favorite word.
For more on poetry listen to Your Morning Basket Episode 8 and download our poetry cheat sheet here.

**Music Appreciation** - The link in the plans links to a YouTube video of the piece. Listen to the YouTube video with eyes closed. Listen a second time and draw what you hear on the provided SQUILT page in the back of this guide. For more in-depth information on Handel, and more information on how to do music appreciation, check out the Handel Composer Spotlight from SQUILT.

**Picture Study** - The link in the plans goes to a copy of the picture to study that you can display or print. More information on how to do picture study can be found by listening to Your Morning Basket Episode 22 with Emily Kiser and download our age-appropriate narration expectations for picture study.

**Nature Study** - Follow the directions in the plans and links or use the activities scheduled from Nature Study Through the Holidays. Either can typically be done in your back yard or as a special post-Morning Time treat you can go farther afield for your nature studies. We have spread these over two days so you can choose which day is best for you.

**Art Tutorials** - We have included a few simple art tutorials for you. You can present the tutorial and then the kids can work on their masterpiece while you read. For more simple Christmas art you will want to check out A Simple Start in Christmas Chalk Pastels.

**Math** - Complete the suggested activity and read the companion picture book or a similar book from your library.

**Reading Suggestions** - Read the chapter book of choice and/or the picture books depending on the ages of your children and how much reading aloud you want to do in Morning Time. Feel free to substitute your own family-favorite holiday books. If you read a lot be sure to break up reading time with other activities. Discuss:

- Favorite parts of the story.
- Should character X have done Y?
- Which character is most like or unlike you?
ADVENT PRAYER

Shout for joy
The whole earth
And everything within
  Rejoice!
For Light has come into the world

The mountains sing
The seas resound
To the praise of your name
  Salvation
Once promised is here on earth

The angels' song
Rings in the air
A child has been born
  Hallelujah!
The Saviour of the world is here

Read more at: http://www.faithandworship.com/prayers_Advent.htm#ixzz4OiikwgB6
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Follow us: @faithandworship on Twitter | faithandworship on Facebook
MEMORIZATION

Isaiah 40:1-5 (KJV)

1 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.
2 Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.
3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
4 Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain:
5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Isaiah 9:6 (KJV)

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Luke 2:13-14 (KJV)

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
A CHRISTMAS CAROL

by GK Chesterton

The Christ-child lay on Mary's lap,
His hair was like a light.
(O weary, weary were the world,
But here is all aright.)
The Christ-child lay on Mary's breast
His hair was like a star.
(O stern and cunning are the kings,
But here the true hearts are.
The Christ-child lay on Mary's heart,
His hair was like a fire.
(O weary, weary is the world,
But here the world's desire.)
The Christ-child stood on Mary's knee,
His hair was like a crown,
And all the flowers looked up at Him,
And all the stars looked down.

YOUR MORNING BASKET • MORNING TIME PLANS • ADVENT 2016
OF THE FATHER’S LOVE BEGOTTEN

by Prudentius

Of the Father’s love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see, evermore and evermore!
At His Word the worlds were framèd; He commanded; it was done:
Heaven and earth and depths of ocean in their threefold order one;
All that grows beneath the shining
Of the moon and burning sun, evermore and evermore!
He is found in human fashion, death and sorrow here to know,
That the race of Adam’s children doomed by law to endless woe,
May not henceforth die and perish
In the dreadful gulf below, evermore and evermore!
O that birth forever blessèd, when the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bare the Savior of our race;
And the Babe, the world’s Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face, evermore and evermore!
This is He Whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord;
Whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word;
Now He shines, the long expected,
Let creation praise its Lord, evermore and evermore!
O ye heights of heaven adore Him; angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before Him, and extol our God and King!
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert sing, evermore and evermore!
Righteous judge of souls departed, righteous King of them that live,
On the Father’s throne exalted none in might with Thee may strive;
Who at last in vengeance coming
Sinners from Thy face shalt drive, evermore and evermore!
Thee let old men, thee let young men, thee let boys in chorus sing;
Matrons, virgins, little maidens, with glad voices answering:
Let their guileless songs re-echo,
And the heart its music bring, evermore and evermore!
Christ, to Thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant with high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory, evermore and evermore!
THE THREE KINGS

by H.W. Longfellow

Three Kings came riding from far away,
   Melchior and Gaspar and Baltasar;
Three Wise Men out of the East were they,
And they travelled by night and they slept by day,
For their guide was a beautiful, wonderful star.

The star was so beautiful, large, and clear,
   That all the other stars of the sky
Became a white mist in the atmosphere,
And by this they knew that the coming was near
   Of the Prince foretold in the prophecy.

Three caskets they bore on their saddle-bows,
   Three caskets of gold with golden keys;
Their robes were of crimson silk with rows
   Of bells and pomegranates and furbelows,
Their turbans like blossoming almond-trees.

And so the Three Kings rode into the West,
   Through the dusk of night, over hill and dell,
And sometimes they nodded with beard on breast
   And sometimes talked, as they paused to rest,
With the people they met at some wayside well.

"Of the child that is born," said Baltasar,
"Good people, I pray you, tell us the news;
   For we in the East have seen his star,
And have ridden fast, and have ridden far,
   To find and worship the King of the Jews."

And the people answered, "You ask in vain;
   We know of no king but Herod the Great!
They thought the Wise Men were men insane,
As they spurred their horses across the plain,
   Like riders in haste, and who cannot wait.
And when they came to Jerusalem,  
Herod the Great, who had heard this thing,  
Sent for the Wise Men and questioned them;  
And said, "Go down unto Bethlehem,  
And bring me tidings of this new king."

So they rode away; and the star stood still,  
The only one in the gray of morn  
Yes, it stopped, it stood still of its own free will,  
Right over Bethlehem on the hill,  
The city of David, where Christ was born.

And the Three Kings rode through the gate and the guard,  
Through the silent street, till their horses turned  
And neighed as they entered the great inn-yard;  
But the windows were closed, and the doors were barred,  
And only a light in the stable burned.

And cradled there in the scented hay,  
In the air made sweet by the breath of kine,  
The little child in the manger lay,  
The child, that would be king one day  
Of a kingdom not human but divine.

His mother Mary of Nazareth  
Sat watching beside his place of rest,  
Watching the even flow of his breath,  
For the joy of life and the terror of death  
Were mingled together in her breast.

They laid their offerings at his feet:  
The gold was their tribute to a King,  
The frankincense, with its odor sweet,  
Was for the Priest, the Paraclete,  
The myrrh for the body's burying.
And the mother wondered and bowed her head,
   And sat as still as a statue of stone;
Her heart was troubled yet comforted,
Remembering what the Angel had said
Of an endless reign and of David's throne.

Then the Kings rode out of the city gate,
   With a clatter of hoofs in proud array;
But they went not back to Herod the Great,
For they knew his malice and feared his hate,
And returned to their homes by another way.
Printable Book List

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever by Barbara Robinson

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

Jotham’s Journey by Arnold Ytreeide

Fun with Roman Numerals by David A. Adler

George Handel (Getting to Know the World’s Greatest Composers) by Mike Venezia

The Very First Christmas by Paul L. Maier

The Nativity by Julie Vivas

Why Christmas Trees Aren’t Perfect by Richard H. Schneider

Tricking the Tallyman by Jacqueline Davies

Hallelujah Handel – Audio CD with story and music.

Song of the Stars: A Christmas Story by Sally Lloyd-Jones

How Long or How Wide?: A Measuring Guide by Brian P. Cleary

How Tall, How Short, How Far Away? By David A. Adler

The Night of Las Posadas by Tomie dePaola

Little Shepherd’s Christmas by Carol Heyer

The Birds of Bethlehem by Tomie dePaola

Winter Bees and Other Poems of the Cold by Joyce Sidman

Three Wise Cats by Harold Konstantelos
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- *A Christmas Carol* Ch. 1-2
- *Jotham’s Journey* Follow plan
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<td>Hallelujah Handel – Audio CD with story and music.</td>
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*A Christmas Carol* Ch. 3
*Jotham’s Journey* Follow plan in book.
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A Christmas Carol Ch. 4-5
Jotham’s Journey Follow plan in book.
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### Loop Subjects

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Your Morning Basket • Morning Time Plans • Advent

16
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*A Christmas Carol* Ch. 3  
*Jotham’s Journey* Follow plan in book. |                                            |
| Poetry        | “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” by Prudentius *Sing-able version* |                                            |
| Music         | Handel’s *Messiah* “Glory to God in the Highest” “ | *The Night of Las Posadas*               |
| Picture Study | *The Annunciation to the Shepherds* by Govaert Flinck | *Little Shepherd’s Christmas*          |
| Art           | *Draw Baby Jesus*                              | *Three Wise Cats* – Begin this story about three cats on a journey to find the Christ child which lasts from Christmas to Epiphany. |
| Math          | *Measuring distance: Use this map* and measure the distance between Nazareth and Bethlehem. Practice *conversions* or contemplate the journey on foot. | *How Long or How Wide?: A Measuring Guide*  
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