

His Name Is **JESUS!**



a family advent book of Jesus' names



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“You will name him Jesus,” the angel told both Mary and Joseph, and that is the name we still use most often when we talk about our dear Savior. That name has a special meaning, which you will learn about in this book.

The Bible tells us that Jesus has other names too, lots of them, and all of those names have special meanings as well; they help us understand who Jesus is and what he does for us.

Each day during this Advent season you will be learning another name for Jesus. Maybe when the book is done, you can pick your favorite.

His Name Is
**Alpha &
Omega**



"Don't be afraid! I am the first and the last. I am the living one! I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever."

Revelation 1:17-18

Alpha is the first letter in the Greek alphabet, and Omega is the last one, the way A and Z are the first and last letters in ours. They stand for where it all starts and where it ends.

Where does your life as a child of God start? It starts with Jesus! And where does your life as a child of God come to its conclusion? With Jesus! From Advent to Easter, from baptism to heaven ... Jesus is not only the beginning and the end, but Jesus is there all the way in between!

Lord Jesus, from start to finish you are there. You never leave me or forsake me. Help me to trust you always. Amen.

What is the first verse in the Bible? What is the last verse? Where does the story begin? Where does it end?

His Name Is
Immanuel

A virgin will conceive and bear a son, and he will be called Immanuel—which means, “God is with us.”

Matthew 1:23

For centuries people had been praying for a messiah, a savior, a redeemer—for God to send someone to help them. They were looking for a special person.

When God answered their prayers, God did send a person, it is true—a person who was born as a baby and grew up to do God’s will and even to suffer and die. But the answer to their prayers was even more than they had prayed for: what they got for Christmas was God!

As we look toward the manger, that’s what we are getting for Christmas too!



Lord Jesus, you are strong enough and wise enough to help in every need. I trust you completely, for you are God! Amen.

Talk about some time in your life when you could really tell that God was with you.

His Name Is Jesus

"You will name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew 1:21

Did you know that the name *Jesus* is the same as the name *Joshua*? *Jesus* was named after someone famous, "General *Joshua*" who led God's people to great victories and brought them to their promised home.



Although we sometimes call him "gentle *Jesus*, meek and mild"—his name actually means someone who comes with great power to rescue you, almost like an army tank that knocks down anything in its way.

With such a strong Savior, we can be sure of victory. *Jesus* will lead us safely to our promised home.

*Lord **Jesus**, come with great might to deliver us. Strong Savior, come to our rescue. Amen.*

Who is the strongest person you know? Is that person a friend (or relative) of yours?

His Name Is

Christ, the Messiah

You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.

Matthew 16:16

Both of these words (*Christ* is Greek and *Messiah* is Hebrew) tell about how a person is marked to do a special job ... like a crossing guard at school who may wear a special belt ... or a police officer, whose uniform indicates special work to do, important work for the safety of all of us.

Jesus wore swaddling clothes to show that he was one of us. He wore sandals to bring God's Word from place to place. He wore a prayer shawl to be an obedient child of God. He wore a crown of thorns to be a sacrifice to take our sins away.

Lord Jesus, when I was baptized, you put your mark on me. Show me what to do as your special child. Amen.

How many other people can you think of whose uniforms help you recognize what they do?



His Name Is

The Bread of Life

"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

John 6:35

Some people would say that *bread* is one of the most basic foods there is. All by itself, bread may seem simple, maybe even dull. But then think of all the different forms it takes: buns for hamburgers and hot dogs, toast (even French toast), muffins, rolls ... how about coffee cakes and donuts? There are so many ways to eat it that you probably don't think, "This is helping me to live." Instead you probably just think, "This is good."

Jesus came as a human being so that we could see how good God is. He did so many different things for us. But all of them were done to help keep us alive—forever.

Lord Jesus, you fill my tummy with good things. Fill my heart and soul too, that I may live forever. Amen.

Maybe you could eat a piece of bread (or something else that has been baked) right now.





His Name Is
The Vine

"I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you stay joined to me, and I stay joined to you, then you will produce lots of fruit."

John 15:5

Once I wanted to use some grape vines in a flower arrangement at church. So I cut them off and placed them into water immediately, and then rushed to get them to church. But by the time I got there, the vines had withered and could not be used. It was just as Jesus had said: separated from the vine, the branches could do nothing.

That's why Jesus wants us to stay joined to him—so that we can stay alive and bear lots of fruit for him.

Lord Jesus, keep me connected closely to you. Then show me how to be a lovely fruitful vine. Amen.

Count the living plants in your home. Who waters them? How often? Have any plants died recently? Why?

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Children ages 4-10 and their families will enjoy learning a new name for Jesus each day of Advent as they read the daily devotions in this booklet about the one whose name is greater than all other names.

