



SCRIPTURE READING GUIDE

**The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.**

**Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.**

**And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.**

**And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.**

**So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.**

**Matthew 1 (ESV)**



# Introduction

The Christmas season is here! It is a time to celebrate the initial coming of our Messiah and a time to eagerly anticipate His return.

So often “the most wonderful time of the year” becomes the *most stressful time of the year*. My hope for this scripture reading guide and the companion Church Center reading group is that we would focus our hearts and minds on Christ throughout the season leading to Christmas Day.

Through a portion of a few different stories of men and women God used in the lineage of Jesus, we will focus on the themes of hope, peace, love, and joy that are found in a relationship with God.

As we see God use the unlikely and unqualified to bring glory to His name and to carry on the line that would birth the promised Savior, my prayer is that we will be able to see our own circumstances in a new light. Each of us may believe on paper that God **can** use us, but are we really walking out that belief each day? Do we know that our limitations, lack of experience, or sinful past are not impediments to a holy, all-powerful God? Or do we only know that in our heads and it hasn’t changed the way we live?

As we read through these stories each week, I hope you’ll find God revealing Himself and His grace in fresh ways. I pray that it will inspire you to share your own testimony of radical life-change with someone. I’m hopeful that this reading guide won’t be the beginning and end of the learning, but that it will inspire conversations with your families, friends, co-workers, and Anchor Communities.

This guide is an exciting one to launch as something new for us at Fathom Church, but it is just one tool. Ultimately, the goal is **not** to **create** more boxes in order to **check** more boxes this Christmas season. Committing to an advent reading plan doesn’t automatically make you a better Christian. The goal for each of us is to abide with God through His written word so we can better hear His voice. And the better we hear His voice, the deeper we fall in love with Him. I’m so pleased to be walking through this season with you. Merry Christmas!

Christina Scott  
Next Steps Director



# Celebrating

The prophet Isaiah foretells the coming of Jesus in a way that is both strong in imagery and beautiful in cadence. Even though it has been translated and is not in the original language, it still evokes such strong emotion for those who read and hear it.

**Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan— The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.**

**You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.**

**For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.**

**Isaiah 9.1-7 (NIV)**

As we head into this season of expectation, let's rejoice. Isaiah was living in the first advent season - awaiting the promised Messiah. We are living in the second! We have seen the great light that has dawned on the darkness and now we await His return. We have His perfect example of how to live. We have His perfect atonement already made for us.

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel has come!

# Other Resources



Scan the QR code  
or text the word  
**FATHOM** to 49775  
to get your  
FREE gift subscription to

**rightnow** MEDIA



Download the RightNow Media app  
and check out our Advent channel  
for resources for you and your entire  
family!



Jump on the Church Center App,  
go to the Groups tab, and connect  
with the Advent scripture reading  
group. There's daily discussion,  
helpful visuals, and  
encouragement throughout the  
month.

Follow us on IG & Facebook  
@fathom.church



# Advent – Hope

## DEC 1ST

GENESIS 25.19-28

MAJOR MOMENTS: ESAU & JACOB BORN

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL READING: GENESIS 25.29-34

## DEC 2ND

GENESIS 26.1-5

MAJOR MOMENTS: GOD RENEWS HIS OATH TO BLESS ALL NATIONS

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL READING: GENESIS 27

## DEC 3RD

GENESIS 28.1-5, 10-22

MAJOR MOMENTS: JACOB SENT TO LABAN, JACOB DREAMS OF GOD

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL READING:

## DEC 4TH

GENESIS 29

MAJOR MOMENTS: JACOB MARRIES LEAH & RACHEL, HAS CHILDREN

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL READING: GENESIS 30

## DEC 5TH

GENESIS 31.1-3; 32.9-12

MAJOR MOMENTS: GOD INSTRUCTS JACOB TO RETURN HOME; JACOB FEARS HIS BROTHER, ESAU

## DEC 6TH

GENESIS 32.22-30; 33.1-11

MAJOR MOMENTS: JACOB WRESTLES WITH GOD; RECONNECTS WITH ESAU

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL READING: GENESIS 35



# Prayers & Notes

**Week one spiritual focus: Hope**

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Matthew 19.26 (NIV)



# Advent - Peace

## DEC 7TH

JOSHUA 2.1-14

MAJOR MOMENTS: RAHAB HIDES ISRAELITE SPIES

## DEC 8TH

JOSHUA 2.15-24

MAJOR MOMENTS: ISRAELITE SPIES MAKE AN OATH TO RAHAB

## DEC 9TH

JOSHUA 5.10-15

MAJOR MOMENTS: ISRAEL HAS FIRST PASSOVER IN CANAAN, JOSHUA MEETS  
COMMANDER OF THE LORD'S ARMY

## DEC 10TH

JOSHUA 6.1-11

MAJOR MOMENTS: PREPARATIONS MADE FOR ISRAEL TO TAKE JERICHO

## DEC 11TH

JOSHUA 6.12-25

MAJOR MOMENTS: RAHAB & HER FAMILY SPARED IN THE FALL OF JERICHO

## DEC 12TH

HEBREWS 11.1-22

MAJOR MOMENTS: FAITH IN THE LINEAGE OF JESUS

## DEC 13TH

HEBREWS 11.23-40

MAJOR MOMENTS: FAITH IN THE LINEAGE OF JESUS

A decorative header featuring a close-up of green pine branches with white snowflakes and a few small red berries. The background is dark, making the white snow and green needles stand out.

# Prayers & Notes

**Week two spiritual focus: Peace**

Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4.7 (NLT)



# Advent - Love

## **DEC 14TH**

I KINGS 3.1-15

MAJOR MOMENTS: SOLOMON LOVES GOD & ASKS FOR WISDOM

## **DEC 15TH**

I KINGS 8.12-21

MAJOR MOMENTS: SOLOMON MINISTERS TO THE LORD

## **DEC 16TH**

I KINGS 8.22-53

MAJOR MOMENTS: SOLOMON'S PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## **DEC 17TH**

I KINGS 8.54-61

MAJOR MOMENTS: SOLOMON'S INSTRUCTIONS TO ISRAEL ABOUT THEIR HEARTS

## **DEC 18TH**

II CHRONICLES 7.11-22

MAJOR MOMENTS: THE LORD APPEARS TO SOLOMON

## **DEC 19TH**

I KINGS 11.1-13

MAJOR MOMENTS: SOLOMON'S LOVE FOR WOMEN LEADS HIM AWAY FROM GOD

## **DEC 20TH**

PSALM 127

MAJOR MOMENTS: PSALM OF SOLOMON

A decorative header featuring a close-up of green pine branches with white snowflakes and a few red berries, set against a dark background.

# Prayers & Notes

**Week three spiritual focus: Love**

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

John 13.34-35 (NIV)



# Advent – Joy

## **DEC 21ST**

LUKE 1.-26-38

MAJOR MOMENTS: THE ANGEL VISITS MARY

## **DEC 22ND**

LUKE 1.39-45

MAJOR MOMENTS: MARY VISITS HER COUSIN, ELIZABETH

## **DEC 23RD**

LUKE 1.46-56

MAJOR MOMENTS: MARY'S SONG OF PRAISE TO GOD

## **DEC 24TH**

JOHN 1.1-15

MAJOR MOMENTS: THE ONLY SON FROM THE FATHER

## **DEC 25TH**

LUKE 2.1-21

MAJOR MOMENTS: THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

A decorative header featuring a close-up of green pine branches with white snowflakes and small red berries, set against a dark background.

# Prayers & Notes

**Week four spiritual focus: Joy**

"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."

John 15.11 (NIV)

A decorative header featuring a dark background with green pine branches and white snowflakes. Several small red berries are visible on the branches.

# **Prayers & Notes**

## **Advent 2023**

A decorative header featuring a dark background with green pine branches and white snowflakes. Several small red berries are visible among the branches.

# **Prayers & Notes**

## **Advent 2023**



[fathom.church/christmas](https://fathom.church/christmas)