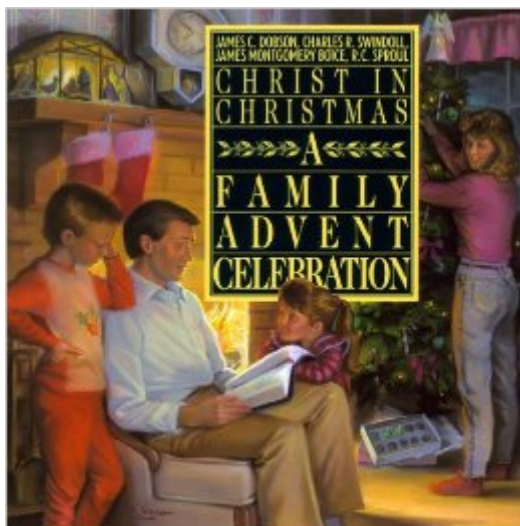


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# Christ In Christmas: A Family Advent Celebration



## Synopsis

Advent refers to the "coming" or "arrival" of Jesus Christ; its purpose is to help us find special moments during the Christmas season to ponder and celebrate Christ's coming to earth. This Christmas book includes 5 five major devotions by contributing authors • James Montgomery Boice • James C. Dobson • R. C. Sproul, • Charles R. Swindoll It also includes: • inspiring hymns and prayers • Scripture • Christmas carols • a complete Advent Scripture reading plan • activities • Also available: Christ in Easter

## Book Information

Paperback: 80 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars • See all reviews • (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #765,405 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #210 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Entertaining & Holidays > Christmas #488 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Entertaining & Holidays > Holidays #562 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Holidays > Christmas

## Customer Reviews

The book is divided into daily devotions for each day of the four weeks of Advent. Each day has a passage from the Bible already included. The devotions for Sunday include songs, prayers, a family activity, a passage from the Bible, and a short story written by one of the contributing authors. We have used the book in our family for a few years. It helps to bring the true meaning of Christmas alive for children. I would recommend the book especially for families with children who are 5 years of age and older.

I bought this book when my oldest child was about 4 years old. I had seen children all around me concentrate on "gimmie" and wanted a different emphasis for my children. Advent begins the fourth Sunday before Christmas. This book can be used in 2 ways: Either light a candle and read only the 4 Sundays before Christmas and Christmas Eve, or light a candle and read each night. The first

week of nightly readings addresses the creation of man and his fall from grace, the second week addresses the prophecies of the Messiah, the third addresses the birth of Jesus, and the fourth addresses the ministry of Jesus on Earth. The last section is about the promises of Jesus' return and is for those few days that often fall between the last Sunday and Christmas Eve. Sunday readings are the Christmas Story. My children look forward to the family time each evening. They have come to understand the full story. It has helped move our Christmas' emphasis back onto Christ. This would be great for any family with children under 10.

I'd say that this book is targeted for families with children over age 8. We're finding it not very suitable for my family with children ages 7, 5, and 2. There are five readings for Sundays in this book. But, for example, with a meditation that talks about Dan Rather, Waterloo, Micah, etc., I find myself having to explain practically every sentence to the children. The Monday through Saturday readings consist of Bible passages. But for example, the selection of Isaiah 19:19-25 leaves kids puzzled about how the highway between Egypt and Assyria relates to Christmas. Yes, this is very solid Biblical material, but we're not finding it age-appropriate for engaging a young family in the advent celebration despite the drawing on the book cover.

I got this for my family this year. I have a 3.5 yr old and 1.5 yr old. This was over their heads. I'll pull it out again in a few years bc I think it contains solid and thoughtful devotions for the advent season. For this year, though, it just wasn't quite what I was hoping it would be.

My family used this book for Advent when I was growing up so when I started a family with my husband, I knew I had to purchase it. The devotionals and Scripture truly help refocus hearts and minds on the true meaning of Christmas. My kids have enjoyed learning the Christmas hymns in the book. I would highly recommend this book.

In this collection of Advent devotionals, four prominent Christian leaders each contribute a devotional to use for the four Sundays of Advent. On the other days you simply read a well-chosen scripture selection taken from the King James Version and the New International Version of 1973. Each verse builds on the last, beginning with prophecies about the Messiah in the Old Testament, proceeding through the Gospel accounts of Jesus and one description of him in Colossians, and finishing with his promised triumph in Revelation. The Sunday devotionals consist of a scripture passage, a familiar song to sing together, a two- or three-page essay, a family activity, and a closing

prayer. The essays, especially the first two, seem geared more toward adults and teens than children, and the activities are rather time-consuming, so it may be better to just read the essay ahead of time to shape your own discussion. If you like the versions of the Bible used, on most days this book provides a low-effort, off-the-shelf reading to focus your attention on Christ. The Sunday devotionals require some preparation and thought, especially if you want to contextualize the essays so your particular age group can understand them. If you have a mix of teens and younger children, this book could make a nice bridge, providing mature discussion for those who are old enough for it, and a hands-on activity to engage the younger kids.

My family has really enjoyed this time that we spend together. I hope that it will be a treasured memory for my kids as they remember their childhood Christmas.

Haven't yet started having family devotions? This book is a great way to start a new tradition that will bless your family and will give your children a framework for leading their own families.

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