

# ADVENT

## FAMILY DEVOTION

64 Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you!2 As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you!3 For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.4 Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.5 You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways.

Isaiah 64:1-5

I am sure you have heard the word advent at some point. You probably know that it leads up to Christmas! You may even think it is Christmas time. And that is understandable. We get excited for Christmas! The lights and trees and food and presents! It is a very happy time of year that we should get excited for and celebrate! But what type of preparation goes into Christmas? Putting the tree up, shopping for gifts, making food, maybe stringing popcorn. There is a lot to do before Christmas!

Advent is the season leading up to Christmastime. It is a time to wait and prepare for the coming of Jesus. I know, waiting sounds like no fun at all. The word advent means "coming" in Latin. So the season of advent is the season of Jesus coming down to us. We are preparing our hearts and anticipating his arrival in the same way Mary prepared for him by traveling to Bethlehem and finding a place for him. We are praying and hoping for his presence to dwell with us.

DEAR GOD,  
COME AND DWELL WITH US AS WE  
WAIT IN HOPEFUL ANTICIPATION  
OF YOUR SON.  
AMEN.