

A detailed illustration of a nativity scene. In the center, Mary, wearing a blue headscarf and a red dress, cradles the infant Jesus wrapped in white swaddling clothes. Joseph, wearing a yellow and red striped turban and a red and yellow striped robe, stands behind her. To the right, a brown ox and a grey donkey look on. In the foreground, a white lamb stands on the left, and another white lamb lies on the ground in the center. The scene is set in a stable with a stone wall and a window in the background, illuminated by a warm, golden light.


'Twas the Season OF Advent

Devotions and Stories for the Christmas Season

Written by Glenys Nellist

Illustrated by Elena Selivanova

ADVENT RESOURCE PACK



Introduction

The resources and activities contained in this pack are designed to be used by families during Advent. They are based on using the book:

'Twas the Season OF Advent

by Glenys Nellist

INCLUDED IN THIS ADVENT PACK:

Signed bookplates and bookmarks.

Follow up questions and activities for each of the 25 stories, including:

- ★ Talk About It
- ★ Family Activity
- ★ Advent Add: 25 numbered pictures designed to be cut out and used as an Advent calendar / countdown to Christmas.

What You Need:

- *Twas the Season of Advent* by Glenys Nellist
- White copy paper
- Glue
- Sturdy White Cardstock
- Scissors
- Hole Punch
- Ribbon
- Pipe cleaners
- Pony beads
- Glitter crayons



Bookplates

Copy on white paper, cut out and glue on the inside cover of the book.

'Twas the Season
OF Advent

written by Glenys Nellist, Illustrated by Elena Selivanova

Advent Joy!
Glenys Nellist
♡



ZONDERkidz

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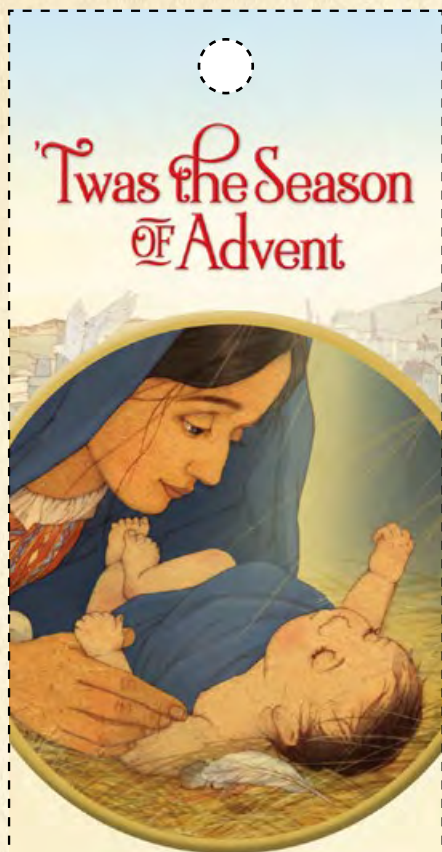


ZONDERkidz



Bookmarks

Copy on cardstock, cut out and glue together.
Punch a hole where indicated and tie a ribbon through.



**Twas the season
of Advent when
all through the
earth, people were
pausing to ponder
Christ's birth.**

 ZONDERkidz™



Celebrate the
Advent season
with 25 family
devotions.

*Also available from
Glenys Nellist:*



www.glenysnellist.com



Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 1

TALK ABOUT IT

What are you most looking forward to this Advent?
Which part of this story are you most looking forward to hearing?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Work together to draw or create your own manger scene.
Put it somewhere in your home where you'll see it every day.

ADVENT ADD

Locate this image at the back of this pack and
follow the instructions to add to your tree today.





Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 2

TALK ABOUT IT

Think about the hands of the carpenter who made that manger. What do you think he would say if he knew that God's son slept in it? How do you think he would feel?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Work together. Use your hands to make a gift for someone so they know you're thinking of them this Christmas.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 3

TALK ABOUT IT

When you think about Jesus being the light of the world, what picture do you have in your mind? When Jesus grew up, he told people to 'let their light shine.' (Matthew 5:16) Who do you know who shines the light of love in your life? How do they do that?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Take a walk around your neighborhood together in the dark. Which Christmas lights do you like best? Which ones remind you of Jesus? Talk about how your family might shine your light of love in your neighborhood.

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 4

TALK ABOUT IT

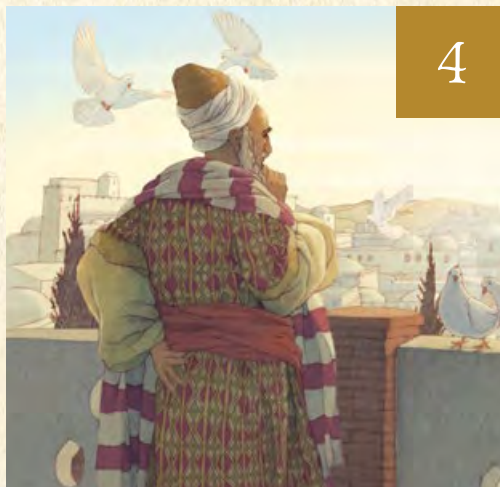
How do you think Isaiah felt being God's messenger? How do you think you would feel being God's messenger? Who do you think are God's messengers today?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Be messengers of hope today! Write a letter or card to a friend or someone in your neighborhood who needs hope.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 5

TALK ABOUT IT

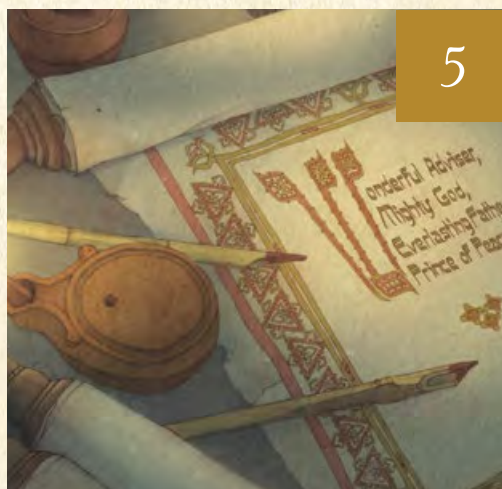
Look at the four names for Jesus that Isaiah wrote down. What different pictures come into your mind for each name? Which one do you like best and why?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Choose your favorite name for Jesus. Using a narrow strip of cardstock, design your own bookmark with this name on to use in your Bible or to give to a friend.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 6

TALK ABOUT IT

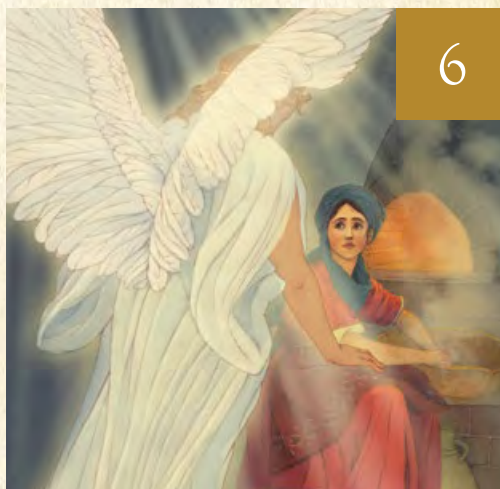
Mary had to be very brave when the angel came. When was a time you had to be brave? What, or who, helped you be brave?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Look at the picture of Mary on p.13. We don't really know what she looked like, but many artists have painted or drawn pictures of her. Find as many pictures of Mary as you can. Which one do you think might look most like her? Why?

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 7

TALK ABOUT IT

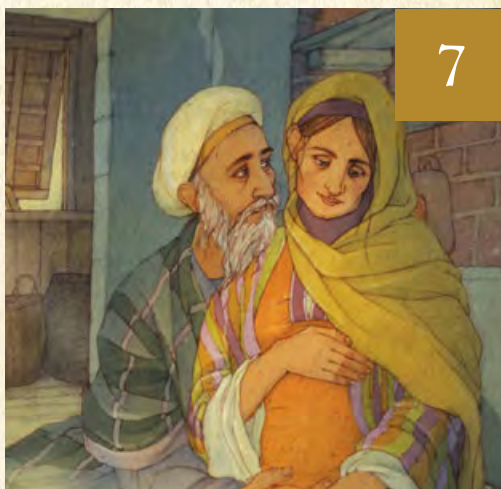
Elizabeth's baby was called John the Baptist. What do you know already about him? (Find out more by reading his story in Luke 3:1-18.)

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Look together at the picture of Elizabeth and Zechariah's home on p. 15. How is their home different to yours? Take it in turns to name one difference each until you have named them all. Now look around at your home. Say a family prayer, thanking God for all the things you have in your home.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 8

TALK ABOUT IT

Look at the picture of Mary and Elizabeth on p. 17. How do you think they are feeling? Good news is meant for sharing! Think about a time when you shared some good news with someone in your family or they shared good news with you. What was it? How did you feel?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Think about someone in your family who you haven't seen for a while.
Write a note to them or call or text them on the phone.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 9

TALK ABOUT IT

Did you know that many people in the Bible sang songs of praise to God, especially after God had done great things for them? (See Exodus 15:1-12) If you were to sing a song of praise to God, what things would you thank God for?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Write a song or poem of praise together, using Psalm 136 as a pattern.

ADVENT ADD

Locate this image at the back of this pack and follow the instructions to add to your tree today.





Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 10

TALK ABOUT IT

Listening to God isn't easy! When do you find it easiest to listen to God?
Where do you find it easiest to listen to God?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Listen to a favorite Christmas song or carol together.
Listen to the words. How does it make you feel about God?

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 11

TALK ABOUT IT

What do you think angels look like? How do you think you would feel if you saw one?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Look around during this season of Advent and see where you can find angels. Perhaps you'll find one on a tree ornament, or on a Christmas card, or one lit up in a display in your neighborhood. How many can you find and which one do you like best?

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 12

TALK ABOUT IT

What was the longest journey you've ever made? What was the hardest journey you've ever made?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Plan a 'Christmas Walk' around your neighborhood and the route you will take. It could simply be to look out for signs of the Christmas story, such as angels, or Mary and Joseph; or, it could be to deliver some Christmas cheer, in the form of home-made gifts to neighbors.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 13

TALK ABOUT IT

What do you think it would feel like to be homeless, and to have no place to sleep at night?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Get in touch with your local homeless shelter and find out how you can help.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 14

TALK ABOUT IT

Read the wondering questions in this story again. Talk about your thoughts.

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Using your answers to the wondering questions to guide you, write a Family Advent Prayer together. Say it at bedtime each night from now until Christmas Day.

ADVENT ADD

Locate this image at the back of this pack and follow the instructions to add to your tree today.





Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 15

TALK ABOUT IT

Look at the faces of all the animals and characters in the illustration on p. 29. What do you think they are all thinking and feeling?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Download the coloring sheet from the next page.
Color together and talk about the scene.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 16

TALK ABOUT IT

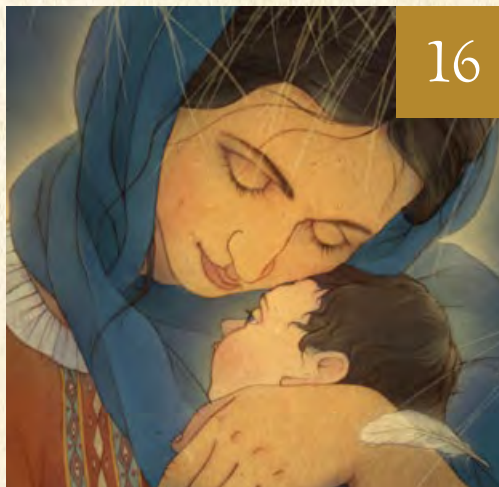
Share stories of the day each of your family members were born, or the day they joined your family. Where did that take place? What happened?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

The name *Jesus* means 'to save.' Write down the names of all your family members. Alongside each, write or draw what each name means, or why they were chosen.

ADVENT ADD

Locate this image at the back of this pack and follow the instructions to add to your tree today.





Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 17

TALK ABOUT IT

Think about all the different ways you feel and all the different places you go.
How does it make you feel to know that God is always with you?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

On a big piece of paper write: GOD IS WITH US WHEN WE FEEL:
Underneath, write or draw as many feelings as you can. Now take another piece of
paper and write: GOD IS WITH US WHEN WE'RE AT: Underneath, write or draw all
the places you go. Display the posters where you'll see them every day.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 18

TALK ABOUT IT

When Jesus grew up, he said that he was the 'good shepherd.' (John 10:14)
In what ways do you think Jesus is like a shepherd?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

The 23rd Psalm was written by David, who was a shepherd boy. Read it together and talk about what you think it means. Rewrite it together in your own words.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 19

TALK ABOUT IT

Why do you think that the shepherds were the first to hear the good news?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Have each family member make their own 'Shepherd's Staff Ornament.' Take a pipe cleaner and fold it over tightly at one end to make a knot. Thread it with pony beads, then curve the other end over to make a J shape. Either hang them on your own tree or give them as gifts.

ADVENT ADD

Locate this image at the back of this pack and follow the instructions to add to your tree today.





Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 20

TALK ABOUT IT

Imagine that you were that little shepherd girl, or boy, who went to see Jesus.
What questions would you ask Mary and Joseph?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

If it's a snowy day, go outside and make snow angels, or try to make simple
angel ornaments for your Christmas tree using only pipe cleaners.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 21

TALK ABOUT IT

The wise men brought gifts to worship Jesus. What are some ways that we worship Jesus? What is your favorite way to worship?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Plan a 'star-gazing' night together. As you look at the stars, what thoughts come to your mind?

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 22

TALK ABOUT IT

Look at the picture of the wise men on p. 43. What do you think they are thinking? Look at the three gifts. Which one do you think is the gold? What gifts would you take for a new baby?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Make star ornaments together using the templates and instructions on the next page.

ADVENT ADD

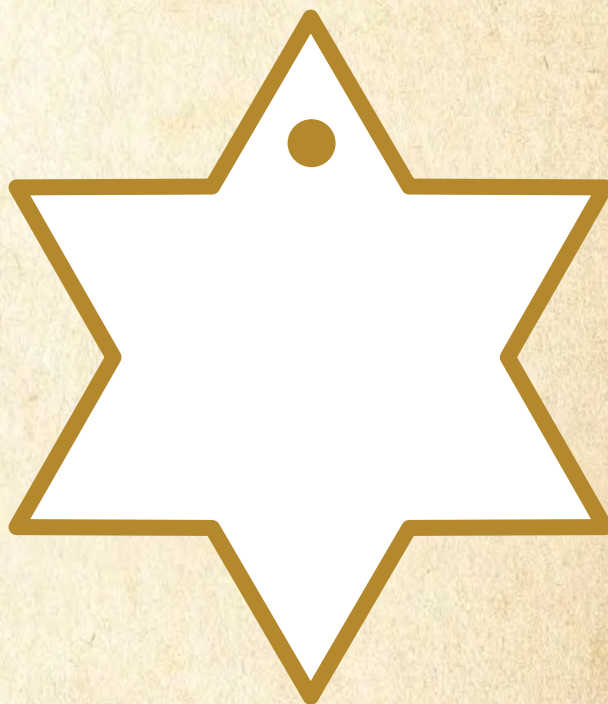
Locate this image at the back of this pack and follow the instructions to add to your tree today.





STAR ORNAMENTS

Copy on sturdy cardstock, color with glitter crayons, punch holes where indicated and use ribbon to hang on the tree or in your windows.





Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 23

TALK ABOUT IT

What were some of your favorite things about Advent this year? What things did you do that you want to remember? Which parts of this story did you like the best?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Find a simple box and label it: 'Advent Memories Treasure Box' (or make your own.) Write or draw your answers to the above questions on slips of paper. Add your name and date and put them inside the box. Next Advent take them out and read them. Then add special memories to your box each year.

ADVENT ADD

Locate this image at the back of this pack and follow the instructions to add to your tree today.





Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 24

TALK ABOUT IT

What are your favorite memories of Christmas Eve?
What is your favorite part of this night? Why?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Light a candle and gather round your manger scene. Think about Jesus, and all those who are lighting candles all around the world on this holy night. Perhaps you could sing Silent Night together.

ADVENT ADD

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Daily Follow Up Questions and Activities



Dec 25

TALK ABOUT IT

Jesus was God's gift to the whole world. What was your favorite gift you received this year? What was the favorite gift you gave?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Go back to the beginning of the book and look at all the pictures as you read through the whole poem aloud. (Not the stories.) Which is your favorite picture and why?

ADVENT ADD

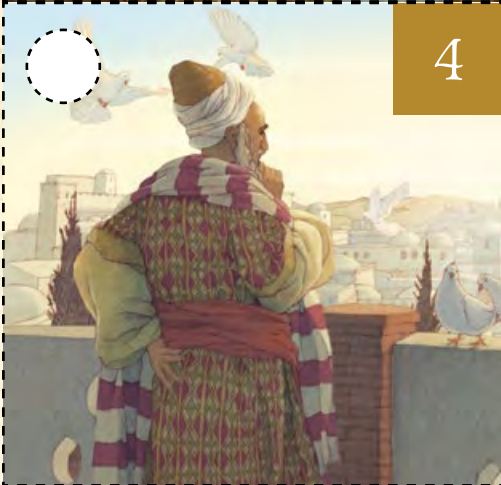
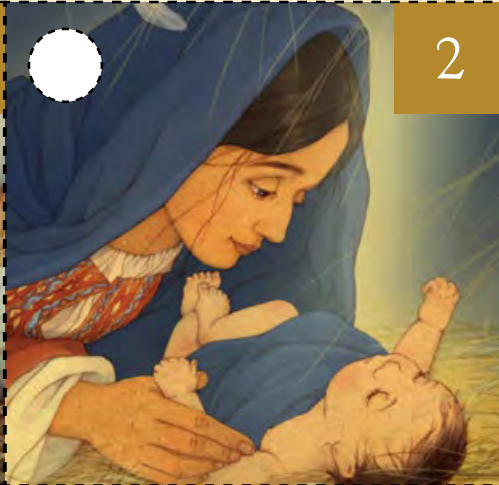
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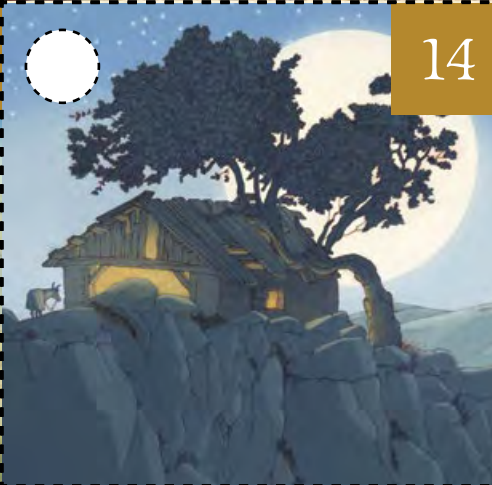
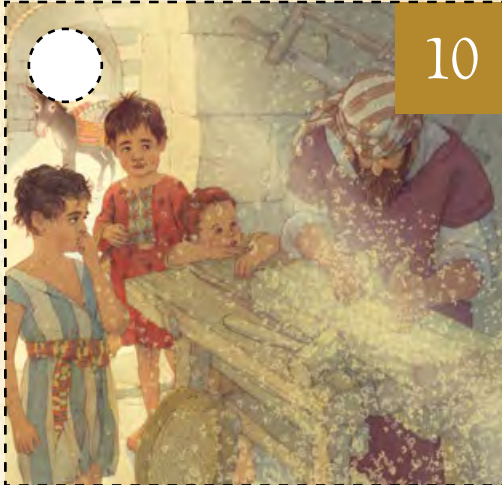
Copy the pictures on sturdy cardstock, cut out and punch a hole where indicated. Tie ribbon through and hang one picture per day on your tree or Advent garland as a countdown to Christmas.





ADVENT ADD

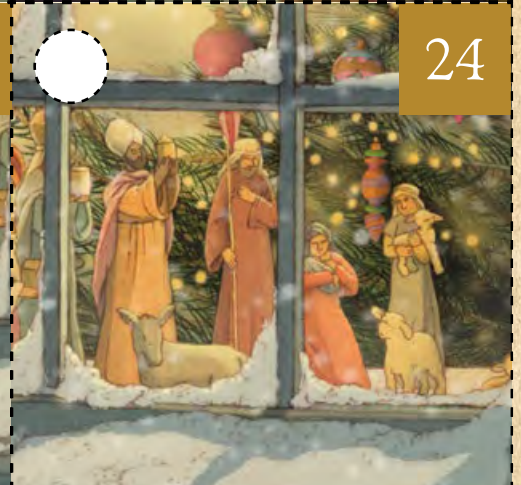
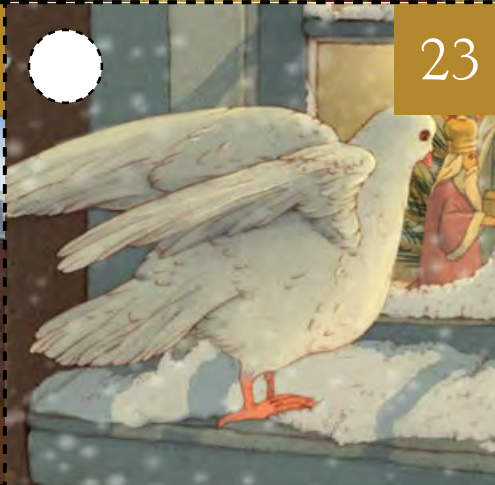
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ADVENT ADD

Copy the pictures on sturdy cardstock, cut out and punch a hole where indicated. Tie ribbon through and hang one picture per day on your tree or Advent garland as a countdown to Christmas.

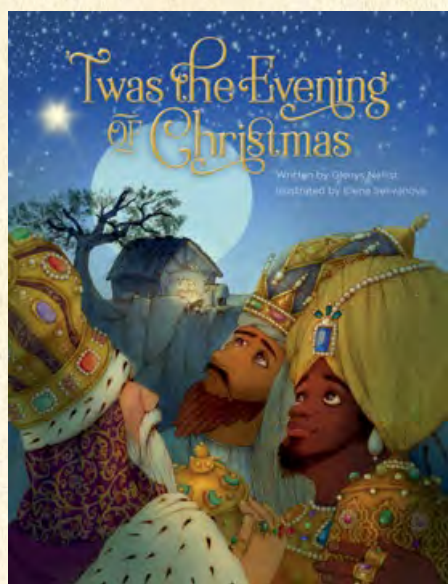




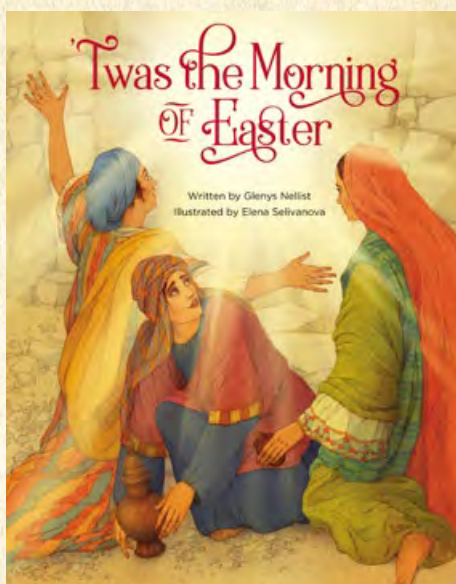
CELEBRATE EACH SEASON WITH BOOKS

by Glenys Nellist

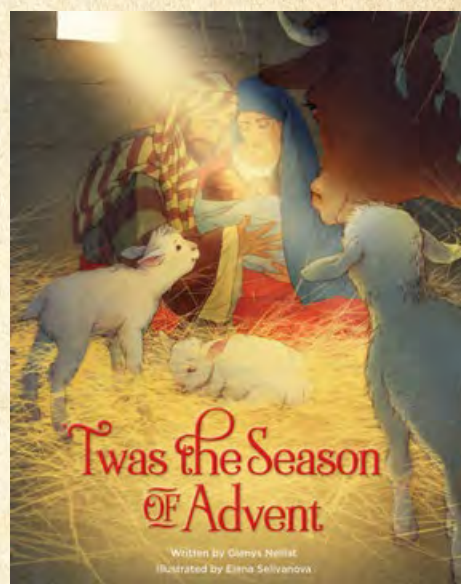
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**Twas the Evening
of Christmas**
\$17.99



**'Twas the
Morning of Easter**
\$17.99



**'Twas the Season
of Advent** \$19.99



Glenys Nellist was born and raised in a little village in northern England. Her writing reflects a deep passion for bringing the Bible to life for young children. She lives in Dearborn, Michigan, with her husband, David. Find Glenys online: glenysnellist.com

www.glenysnellist.com

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