

the Jesus
Storybook Bible
~ 2021 Advent ~





INTRODUCTION: BY SALLY LLOYD-JONES

Happy Nearly Almost Christmas!

What do you love most about Christmas?

Most of us say, PRESENTS! And probably all the grown-ups will laugh and want us to say something more spiritual.

But actually, do you know what? You're right. That IS the best, most important thing about Christmas.

Because, you see, Christmas is all about a present—a gift. The greatest, most magnificent gift there has ever been ...

Christmas is very hard to wait for, isn't it? Waiting to open all those presents—it's so difficult. Especially when you're little.

We count down the days. We can't wait.

But do you know how long God's people had to wait for Christmas? How long they had to wait for the gift God promised them?

Weeks?

No.

Months?

Um. Longer.

Years, then?

Even longer than that.

They had to wait for centuries and centuries! Can you imagine how excited they were when at last Christmas came?



When do you think Christmas begins?
Does it begin in Bethlehem?
Or with the Angel Gabriel visiting Mary?
Or does it begin with a bright star shining
on a little stable?

Actually, the story of Christmas begins
long, long ago—before there were even
any stars in the sky at all.

Christmas begins in the heart of God.

Back in the very beginning, God had a
magnificent dream inside his heart.

He made his children to share in his
Forever Happiness and the world to be
our perfect home. But we lost it all when
we decided we didn't need him, when we
decided we could be happy without him.
And everything broke—in our hearts
and in his world when sin and sadness
and tears came in.

But God had a plan—a magnificent dream.
One day, he would get his children
back. One day, he himself would come
to rescue them and heal their broken
hearts. One day, he promised, Christmas
would come!

All through the Bible, all through the
long years, God has been waiting for
exactly the right time to send his great
gift. He has been waiting for Christmas!

From the moment Adam and Eve left
the garden he whispered the promise,
“It will not always be so.” To Abraham,
he promised one day a child will come
to bring laughter to the whole world. He
promised Joseph, David, Isaiah. One
day, he will send us a Good Shepherd. A
Brave Hero. A Young Prince. A Mighty
King. A Great Rescuer.

A Child.

And every story whispers His name.

Christmas is when, at last, everything
is ready. The time has come, at last, for
God to give us his great gift.





The days leading up to Christmas are called “Advent.” Advent means the “arrival.” It means the long waiting is almost over ...

As we wait for Christmas, we’ll go on a journey together. We’ll read a story every day, decorate the tree, and tell the story of God’s Secret Rescue plan—from the very beginning ... and wait, along with God’s people ...

And on Christmas morning? PRESENTS!

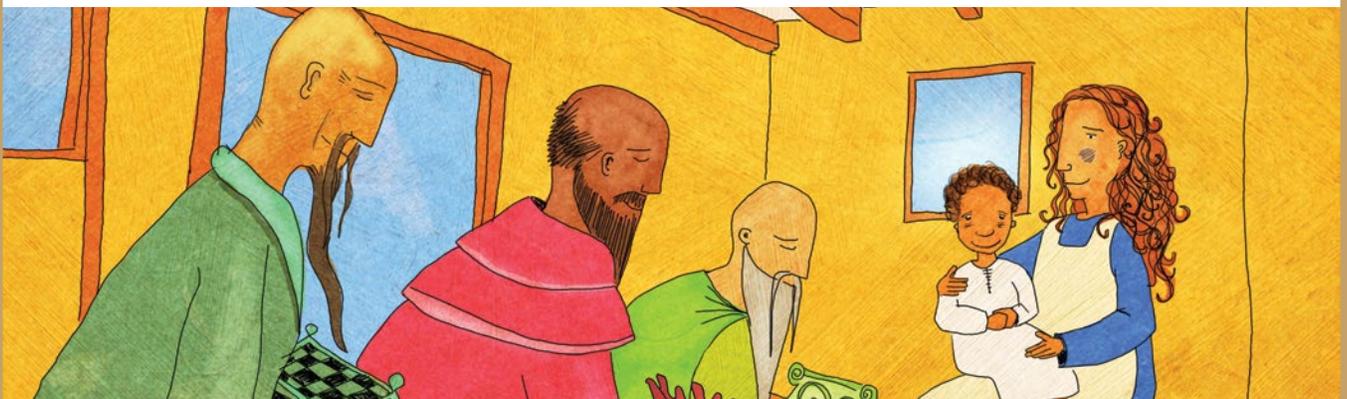
And there is the greatest, most magnificent gift there has ever been—wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

Sleeping under the stars that he made.

The baby who would rescue the world is born!

Happy Christmas!

—SL—J



ADVENT SOUNDTRACK

Sally compiled some of her favorite Christmas songs to accompany you on the journey to Christmas with The Jesus Storybook Bible this Advent. She said this about her Jesus Storybook Bible Advent Soundtrack:

“I start with carols from Kings because that is Christmas for me—and move on to some of my favorite contemporary songwriters. (Full disclosure: quite a few of them happen to also be my friends but I’m not biased or anything.) All of the songs are telling the Christmas story. So I thought it might be a wonderful resource to have—an Advent soundtrack—as you read by yourself or together as a family—or as you decorate the tree—or really anytime at all in the day. I hope you enjoy them as much as I do. My prayer is that as we journey to Christmas together, these songs help prepare our hearts. As we celebrate the Young Prince who loved us and came to rescue us... Happy Advent! (PS right at the end is a bonus: two songs from my children’s album: BIG SONGS FOR LITTLE ONES.)”



[CLICK HERE](#)





Dec 2

Genesis 1-2

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “The Beginning: A Perfect Home” (pg.18-27)

Dec 1

Psalms 19 and Hebrews 1

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “The Story and The Song” (pg.12-17)

Dec 4

Genesis 6-9

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “A New Beginning” (pg.38-47)

Dec 3

Genesis 3

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “The Terrible Lie” (pg.28-37)

Dec 6

Genesis 12-21

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “Son of Laughter” (pg.56-61)

Dec 5

Genesis 11

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “A Giant Staircase to Heaven” (pg.48-55)



Dec 8

Genesis 29-30

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “The Girl No One Wanted” (pg.70-75)

Dec 7

Genesis 22

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “The Present” (pg.62-69)

Dec 10

Exodus 3-13

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “God to the Rescue!” (pg.84-91)

Dec 9

Genesis 37-46

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “The Forgiving Prince” (pg.76-83)

Dec 12

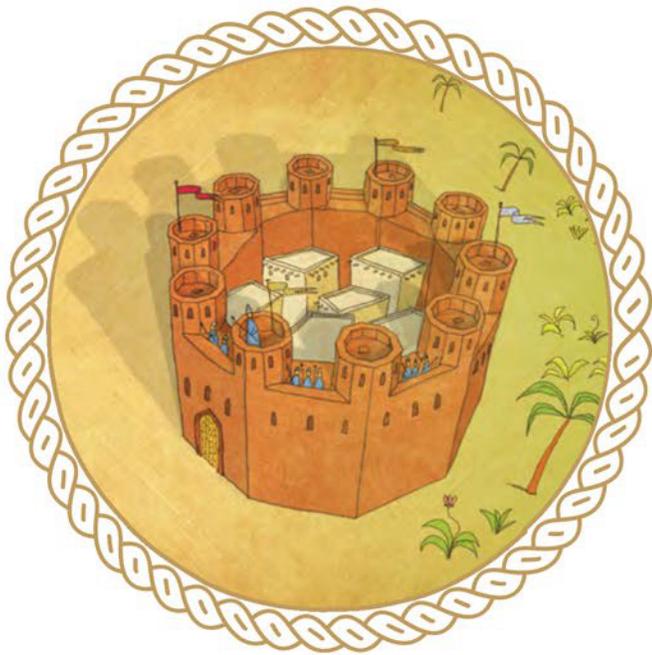
Exodus 16-17, 19-40

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “Ten Ways to be Perfect” (pg.100-107)

Dec 11

Exodus 14-15

Read along in The Jesus Storybook Bible “God Makes a Way” (pg.92-99)



Dec 14

1 Samuel 16

Read along in The Jesus Storybook
Bible "The Teeny Weenie...
True King" (pg.116-121)

Dec 13

Joshua 3 and 6

Read along in The Jesus Storybook
Bible "The Warrior Leader"
(pg.108-115)

Dec 16

Psalms 51, 2 Samuel 7; paraphrase of Psalm 23

Read along in The Jesus Storybook
Bible "The Good Shepherd"
(pg.130-135)

Dec 15

1 Samuel 17

Read along in The Jesus Storybook
Bible "The Young Hero and the
Horrible Giant"
(pg.122-129)

Dec 18

Isaiah 9, 11, 40, 50, 53, 55, 60

Read along in The Jesus
Storybook Bible "Operation
'No More Tears!'"
(pg.144-151)

Dec 17

2 Kings 5

Read along in The Jesus Storybook
Bible "A Little Servant Girl and
the Proud General"
(pg.136-143)



Dec 20

Jonah 1-4; Hebrews 1:1-2

Read along in The Jesus Storybook
Bible "God's Messenger"
(pg.160-169)

Dec 19

Daniel 6

Read along in The Jesus Storybook
Bible "Daniel and the Scary
Sleepover" (pg.152-159)

Dec 22

Luke 1-2

Read along in The Jesus
Storybook Bible "He's Here!"
(pg.176-183)

Dec 21

Nehemiah 8-10, Malachi 1, 3 and 4, Ezra 7

Read along in The Jesus
Storybook Bible "Get Ready!"
(pg.170-175)

Dec 24

Matthew 2

Read along in The Jesus Storybook
Bible "The King of all Kings"
(pg.192-199)

Dec 23

Luke 2

Read along in The Jesus Storybook
Bible "The Light of the Whole
World" (pg.184-191)