

# The Names of Jesus

*Ornament Advent 2023*



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Names have meanings. We have first, middle and last names. Often times our first and middle names are family names – given to us in honor of a loved one. Sometimes our names indicate something that our parents wanted for us, or hoped we would exhibit when we grew up. Our last names identify the family we belong to.

Likewise, in the Bible, children were given very specific names that contained meanings, either about what God had done or what was hoped for that child.

We know from reading the Bible that Jesus was given many names, and each of these names communicates very specific meanings to describe His attributes. We also know that the Bible is totally, completely true and without error, so we can be confident that the names of Jesus will always have the same meaning. The names in this Advent guide are found in both the Old and New Testaments - a reminder that the Bible is one interconnected book, not individual, unrelated stories.

This Advent season we are going to focus specifically on five names of Jesus as they relate to His deity. It's easy to forget that when Jesus came to earth He was fully man but simultaneously fully God. If He wasn't both, Jesus wouldn't have been the perfect sacrifice necessary for our salvation.

*Merry Christmas* from **IMMANUEL BIBLE CHURCH!**



**Scan QR code to find links to:**

**Our online Pinterest board where you'll find recommendations, recipes and links for supplies for each week's Family Activity. Songs to fill your home from our Spotify playlist.**

**Instructions for creating and baking your Names of Jesus ornaments.**

Each week's song selection comes from our very own Songs of Immanuel hymnal (page numbers provided), available for purchase from the IBC Bookstore.

## Week 1: Holy One of Israel

**READ:** Isaiah 12:6, Isaiah 43:3

**BRING IT HOME:** Holiness literally means to be “set apart.” When we talk about holiness, we mean “set apart” from sin. We are born innately sinful, but we know that God is holy, and so is Jesus. Jesus came to earth, was born and grew as a child. Through all of that, He continued to be inherently holy, because that is the essence of who He is. When we understand His holiness, and what He did to allow us to be able to come into the presence of God, it should cause us to worship Him. What are ways we can worship Jesus?

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:** Decorate Christmas Cookies. As you are mixing white frosting with food coloring, talk about how food coloring changes the frosting. A lot of coloring makes a big change but even the smallest amount of food coloring will change the color of the frosting. This is a great illustration of sin. Any amount of sin is still sin – and enough to separate us from a Holy God. Jesus, as the Holy One of Israel, came to be the perfect payment required by God in order to allow mankind to be in relationship with Him.

**LISTEN/SING:** “Holy Holy Holy” Songs of Immanuel #10

**PRAY:** Thank God that He is perfect and holy and that, even though we are born sinful, God has made a way for us to be in relationship with Him – and that was through the perfect sacrifice of His holy Son, Jesus. Eternal and Never-Changing.

## Week 2: Son of God

**READ:** Luke 1:35; John 1:14, 10:30

**BRING IT HOME:** A father is born before a son or daughter and so when we hear the term “son,” we might think that God the Father existed before Jesus the Son, the way an earthly father exists before his son. But this isn’t so. The Son and the Father existed always, together, with the Holy Spirit. The Son, Jesus, wasn’t less God than the Father or the Holy Spirit even when He came to earth as a baby. Jesus, as God’s Son, was the perfect image of God, in human form. If you have been born again, you actually have two fathers – your earthly father and your Heavenly Father!

**Family Activity:** Create a family tree and talk about your grandparents and great grandparents. Share what they did, who they were and what they were like. In what ways are you similar to them and how are you different? Talk about how Jesus, even though He was referred to as the Son of God, was equal with God and took on humanity so we could be saved.

**LISTEN/SING:** “Fairest Lord Jesus” Songs of Immanuel #89; and “Come, Behold the Wonderous Mystery” Songs of Immanuel #69

**PRAY:** Thank God for sending Jesus, His Son, to earth to die on the cross for our sins.

## Week 3: Christ the Lord

**READ:** Luke 2:11; Philippians 2:9-11; Revelation 17:14

**BRING IT HOME:** The word “lord” in the Bible was a term of respect. But after Jesus died and was resurrected, when someone called Him “Lord,” it meant they recognized Jesus as God. When the angels announced Jesus’ birth in Luke, they were acknowledging that He was God in the flesh, with all the power and authority

of God, in human form. When we call Jesus, “Lord,” we are doing the same. How is Jesus Lord of your life?

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:** Create a crown from cardstock and decorate it. Look up the twelve stones mentioned in Revelation 21:19-20 for inspiration as you color your crown. These gems will remind you that now, and for eternity, Jesus Christ is Lord!

**LISTEN/SING:** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” Songs of Immanuel #68; and “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” Songs of Immanuel #59

**PRAY:** Thank God that when we are saved, we can know Jesus Christ our Lord, personally.

## Week 4: Immanuel

**READ:** Isaiah 7:14; John 1:14-18

**BRING IT HOME:** Immanuel means “God with us.” Before Jesus was born, no one had seen God. Jesus as Immanuel represented the perfect image of the invisible God. While He was here on earth, Jesus revealed everything that God wanted us to know about Him. When we are born again, God will be with us forever! What are the attributes or qualities of God that Jesus exhibits?

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:** Find a hand mirror and take turns looking at yourself. What makes you different from your family members? What makes you look the same? Your image in that mirror reflects who you are. Talk about how Jesus is the exact image of God and how because of that, we can understand more about who God is.

**LISTEN/SING:** “O Come O Come Emmanuel” Songs of Immanuel # 57; and “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Songs of Immanuel #65

**PRAY:** Thank God for sending Jesus to be Immanuel (God with us) for us and for showing us God’s holiness and love in a way that we can understand.

## Christmas Eve: Bright Morning Star

**READ:** Revelation 22:16

**BRING IT HOME:** The bright morning star – the brightest star in the sky as the sun rises in the morning – shows us that night is going away and the day is breaking. Jesus is called the “Bright Morning Star” once in the Bible because when He returns, as He promised, He will bring with Him a new heaven and a new earth. Jesus was born as a child in a stable because He came the first time to be a sacrifice. But when He comes again, He will come as king! Darkness and sin will be cast away and we will be with God, and Jesus forever if we are saved. How is “Bright Morning Star” different from other names of Jesus having to do with light?

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:** Make luminarias for your driveway or sidewalk. Using brown or white paper lunch bags, cut out a star shape from the middle of the bag and partially fill with beans, sand or rice to weight the bag. Add tea lights (battery-operated or candle) and line the sidewalk or driveway on Christmas Eve. While completing this activity, talk about how Jesus was given many names having to do with light – but this name means that eternity is about to begin.

**LISTEN/SING:** “Beautiful Savior” Songs of Immanuel #87; and “Glorious Day” Songs of Immanuel #83

**PRAY:** Thank God for sending Jesus, the light, to earth – to show us salvation. Ask Him for patience as we wait for the Bright Morning Star to return someday, to make all things new.