

# THE NAMES OF JESUS

Ornament Advent 2024



IMMANUEL BIBLE CHURCH  
6911 BRADDOCK RD, SPRINGFIELD, VA 22151 · IBC.CHURCH

# THE NAMES OF JESUS

In this third year investigating the names of Jesus, we are going to look at a few of the many names that Jesus called Himself while He was living here on earth. Jesus came to earth and was born to Mary and Joseph in order to fulfill the promise that God made to the serpent all the way back in the garden. God promised Satan in Genesis 3 that Eve's seed would "bruise you on the head and you shall bruise him on the heel." Jesus is the One who was able to do that. In order to set things right again, Jesus, the "second Adam" would be born, live a sinless life and then die - the only appropriate, perfect sacrifice who was able satisfy God's just and holy wrath.

As you learn more about each of these names, our hope is that you will have a new appreciation for the One who is Salvation, and that your love for God would increase because of what He has done for you! All glory be to Christ!

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



## **SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT OUR ADVENT PAGE WHERE YOU WILL FIND:**

- **Our online Pinterest board with recommendations, recipes and links for supplies for each week's Family Activity.**
- **Songs to fill your home from our Spotify playlist.**  
Each week's song selection comes from our very own Songs of Immanuel hymnal
- **Instructions for creating and baking your Names of Jesus ornaments.**

# Week 1: Bread of Life



**READ:** Exodus 16; Deuteronomy 8:2-3;  
Matthew 4:4; John 6:31-35

**BRING IT HOME:** Bread was a staple in the homes of Jewish families in the Bible. It was necessary for life! When the Israelites were in the wilderness in Exodus 16, God provided daily manna for them – not exactly bread but something like it. And He gave them exactly what they needed for each day. But in Deuteronomy, He reminded them that earthly bread was NOT what they truly needed and should not be what they truly desired. Fast forward to Jesus’ life and we see that Satan, when he tempted Jesus in the wilderness, offered Jesus warm bread to eat after forty days of fasting. Can you imagine how hungry Jesus must have been? But Jesus resisted Satan’s temptation by quoting Deuteronomy 8:3. The bread we should want is not the kind that will get old and moldy. Jesus called Himself the Bread of Life – because it is through Him that we will live, forever. His sacrifice is necessary for eternal life! What similarities and differences do you find between Jesus and bread?

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:** [Note: This activity will take a while.] Find a recipe for making bread and go through the process of making it. If you can’t make the dough, you can buy refrigerated dough at Trader Joe’s or Whole Foods. As you wait for the dough to rise and bake, talk about the spiritual food that God offers us in His Word. How do we grow spiritually by reading the Bible? How does bread satisfy our bodies? As you enjoy your warm bread, talk about how Jesus, as the Bread of Life, satisfies us so that “he who comes to Me will not hunger and he who believes in me will never thirst” (John 6:35). How does Jesus do this?

**LISTEN/SING:** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” Songs of Immanuel #158; and “Jesus Messiah” Songs of Immanuel #72

**MEMORIZE:** John 6:35

**PRAY:** Ask God to show you if there are areas in your life where you look to earthly things to satisfy more than you look to Jesus – our spiritual bread. Thank God for giving us the gift of earthly bread but more importantly for sending Jesus to be the Bread of Life for us.

# Week 2: The Good Shepherd



**READ:** Numbers 27:17; Matthew 9:35-36;  
John 10:11-15

**BRING IT HOME:** Shepherding was a big part of life for the Jewish people. When a prophet would talk about shepherds in the Old Testament, His audience would immediately know that reference. It was important for a flock that a shepherd be a “good” shepherd because it meant that the sheep were cared for, fed, and protected. Good shepherds knew their flock and the flock knew the voice of their shepherd. They followed their shepherd. Earlier in the Old Testament, when Moses was told he had to remain in the wilderness, instead of going into the land God had promised his people, he had a request to make. Moses asked God to bring a man who would serve as a shepherd to the Israelites as they went into the land. He knew they would/ need guidance and protection. In the New Testament, Jesus felt compassion on the Jews he encountered, in Matthew, because they were “like sheep without a shepherd.” Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd because like an earthly shepherd, he was willing to die for His sheep because He loves them and knows them. The Good Shepherd had to die in order that we – the sheep - can be with him, for eternity! Do you trust the Good Shepherd? Are you part of Jesus’ flock?

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:** Visit a local farm or petting zoo where sheep are raised and kept. Ask the farmers or zoo workers what sheep are like? Do they listen well? Do they stay put? Are they smart animals? Ask them what happens to sheep if they are not cared for properly. As you travel home, talk about how the Bible calls us sheep. How we are like sheep? Why do we need a Good Shepherd?

**LISTEN/SING:** “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” Songs of Immanuel #139; and “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” Songs of Immanuel #138

**MEMORIZE:** John 10:11

**PRAY:** Thank God that he has given us a Shepherd who was willing to die for us, the sheep. Ask God to show you how you are like sheep that like to go astray. Ask God to help you trust the Good Shepherd.



# Week 3: The Door



**READ:** John 10:1-10; John 14:6; Acts 4:12

**BRING IT HOME:** A door is a sign of protection.

It signifies ownership and security. In order to enter a home, the door must be open. We learned yesterday that a good shepherd would protect his sheep. One of the ways he would do this is that he would lay across the opening of a sheep pen and protect his flock from thieves and robbers at night. Can you believe the sheep will not escape if the shepherd is laying across the doorway? Jesus calls himself the Door – because it is only through his death and resurrection, that we can enter into salvation and ultimately eternity. And once we are saved – and in the fold - no one can steal us away from Him. We are safely home! Anyone who says that we can be saved, without Jesus’s sacrifice – OR because of any other way, is a thief and a robber and just plain wrong.

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:** Buy a live wreath (grapevine or evergreen) or a wreath form and tie or glue cotton balls to it, to signify sheep, for a door in your home. As you put the cotton balls on it, talk about how Jesus, as the Door, is the only way to salvation. And talk about ways that Jesus takes care of us and keeps us safe, when we belong to him? Does he only keep us safe physically?

**LISTEN/SING:** “All the Way My Savior Leads Me” Songs of Immanuel #151 and “Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love” Songs of Immanuel #25

**MEMORIZE:** John 10:9

**PRAY:** Thank God that He has provided Jesus, the Door, the One that each one of us must walk through in order to receive salvation and eternal life. Thank God that Jesus is the only way and that we can never lose our salvation once we have it.

# Week 4: True Vine



**READ:** Psalm 80; John 15:1-8

**BRING IT HOME:** The Jewish people in Jesus' time knew all about vines and branches and the fruit that grew from them. Grapes were necessary for making wine, a drink that was common for the Jewish people to have, so when Jesus referred to himself as the True Vine, His disciples knew exactly what He was saying. A branch or tendril that is not attached to the vine cannot grow at all, and it most definitely cannot produce fruit. When we belong to God, we are part of the True Vine and when we are part of the True Vine, we should bear fruit. When we abide in Christ, we bear fruit, which brings glory to God. This means that our life, our thoughts and actions, should look as though we are part of God's family.

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:** Make a cranberry and popcorn garland to hang in your home. As you string the fruit and the popcorn, talk about what it looks like to live in a way that glorifies God. What fruit do we have - our thoughts and actions - that shows that we are saved and that we follow God? Share with your family the "fruit" you see in one other and celebrate God's work.

**LISTEN/SING:** "Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me"  
Songs of Immanuel #104

**MEMORIZE:** John 15:1

**PRAY:** Thank God that He has given us Jesus, who was born, lived a perfect life, died and rose again so that we can be part of God's family. Ask God to help you see where you are not living in a way that brings glory to Him, and ask the Holy Spirit to help you surrender those areas to God. Thank God for the fruit you see in your lives.

# Christmas Eve: Light of the World



**READ:** Matthew 5:14; Luke 2:32; John 1: 1-13;  
John 8:12; Colossians 1:10-13

**BRING IT HOME:** In the Bible, darkness is used to describe sin and a sinful world. Even our hearts are called dark, when they are hearts that love sin and evil things. Jesus called Himself the Light of the World but at the beginning of the book of John, he was called the true light. And light is an amazing thing! It doesn't take much light at all to be able to light up a dark, dark place. Even the tiniest light can dispel darkness! Jesus, as the light of the world, brought salvation into a dead and dark world, so that we can be saved through his death and resurrection. And when we are saved, and we belong to Him, God calls us children of light! We become the light, that Jesus was, to the world around us! May we all shine the light of Jesus in a way that brings glory to the Savior!

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:** Make luminarias for your driveway or sidewalk. Use twelve brown or white lunch bags – make more if you need to cover the length of the space you plan to use. Cut out a star shape from the middle of the bag. Fill with beans, sand or anything else that will weigh the bag down. Put a tea light (battery operated or candle) inside and turn on/light. Evenly space outside on Christmas Eve. Talk about ways that you can be the light in your neighborhood – so that you can share the gospel message of salvation with those around you.

**LISTEN/SING:** “Shine into Our Night” Songs of Immanuel #51; and  
“Jesus Messiah” Songs of Immanuel #72

**MEMORIZE:** John 8:12

**PRAY:** Thank God that he sent Jesus, who was THE Light, to be light in the world – so that we could be saved. Ask God to help you reflect His light and share the gospel message of salvation to your neighbors and family – so that if there are those who are not yet saved, they would have an opportunity to repent of their sin and put their trust in Jesus.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



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