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We Light The Candles: Devotions Related To Family Use Of The Advent Wreath



Synopsis

This booklet of day-by-day family Advent devotions centers around the Advent wreath and its meaning.

Book Information

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: AUGSBURG FORTRESS (January 6, 1987)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0806615443

ISBN-13: 978-0806615448

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.1 x 7.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

As other reviewers mentioned, the wording really does work well for young children (good for my 3.5 year old). It makes Advent richer and more meaningful to have this evening/dinner devotional in our family. (We also did the Advent Jesse Tree devotional at breakfast time, and had my boys color an ornament I had drawn--copied from the illustrations in the book-- then cut it out and hung it on our little "Jesse" tree each day. Good, simple Advent activity for young children.)

The prayers are certainly kid friendly and cutsie, but they have absolutely no connection with the traditional Advent wreath. Clearly written by someone completely unacquainted with liturgical worship. By week 2, you have the wise men already coming and you're supposed to sing "We 3 Kings" as a family (um... Epiphany anyone?) On Week 3, you're singing "O, little town of Bethlehem." There's no explanation about the pink candle with any connection to Mary, it's just Christmas as usual. The whole point of Advent is it is a waiting and preparation time before Christmas. In these prayers and songs, Christmas has come and gone in Week 1, Epiphany is Week 2, and by Week 4 you're in Pentecost and talking about the Holy Spirit. It feels like someone who is Baptist trying to adapt what is a traditional liturgical Church's practice.

I found this book helpful in guiding me and my family through the advent season. Tells you when to light the candles and gives prayers and reflections for each night. Also has hymns and Christmas songs to sing.

This is the first year that we've used an Advent devotional book and we've enjoyed "We Light the Candles". Some of the devotions are a bit too involved for our 3 year old but generally the devotions are simple and good. If you are looking for a deep and insightful Advent devotional for adults and older children, this may not be a good fit but is probably ideally suited for families with children ages 4-10.

This is our second year using this booklet to guide our family Advent devotionals. Our kids are young (4 & 6) and this booklet works great for us (as it did last year when they were even younger). The devotionals are quite short and simple but not in any way dumbed down. Our kids easily comprehend the lessons and the scriptures. A song or part of a song is included in every devotional, and we enthusiastically sing along with a version of each song we like on a CD. Or, we sometimes choose to listen to a different song than the one suggested (I highly recommend Casting Crowns version of I Heard the Bells On Christmas Day). Our kids especially love how each candle is named (the first candle lit is the candle of promise, next is the candle of light, etc.). I love how our daily Advent devotionals keeps our focus on why we celebrate Christmas. We all love the cozy atmosphere created by sitting together around the warm glow of candles after dinner. I believe we are making wonderful memories with the guidance of this little booklet.

We have used this book for 2 Christmas seasons now and we love it. Our children are all 5 and under, but they still enjoy the readings and the songs. We wanted a book that encouraged thought and reflection, not just fun moral stories. This book met our expectations!

This is a nice little book for family devotions. It was published in 1976 which is evident in the art work mostly. The devotions are still very useful.

This book is written for family devotions, but we used it in a church school. It adapted quite well. Family activities became school-friends activities. The focus of the book was children within the family, as expected, and they responded well. The suggested song verses were fitting and familiar, but we sometimes used different ones. This is a simple book. Little additional preparation is needed

to lead thought-provoking daily worship at home during Advent.

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