

## 'Jesus' Big Family History' Advent Calendar

Wonder about Jesus' 'family history' using this online advent calendar. We have not stuck strictly to the traditional Jesse Tree stories & images, but the idea is similar.

This link will take you to the Advent calendar.

<https://calendar.myadvent.net/?id=7a33762d445f7c03fb46fc11b8d45bc2>

Or you can go via our [Diocese of Guildford website](#) here.

This Advent calendar does not contain pictures of elves and snowmen, instead each day takes you to a character, or a prophecy that link to Jesus.

### When you click on the door you will find:



an image;



some wondering questions;



a video of the story or a song;



the Bible reference for the story.

On the next page is a summary grid showing the content for each day. Two of the 'wondering questions' are the same each day, and most days also contain one that connects a part of the story with the life of Jesus, and with the lives of your children. You may wish to select questions according to the age of your pupils.



### Using the Advent Calendar for collective worship in schools

The calendar would work well in 'bubble collective worship.

We have provided a collective worship to introduce the calendar and some wondering questions for each day that you may wish to use. We suggest that on a Friday you could open the doors for both Friday and Saturday and choose one story to think about.





On a Monday you could open the doors for both Sunday and Monday, again choosing one story to think about.

Many videos are aimed at younger children, so you may prefer to read the story from a Bible with older pupils.



For each day to properly be an act of collective worship, spend a few moments together reflecting or praying about the things you've discussed. The questions are designed to establish some connections with the everyday lives of your pupils, so should help you to make this time appropriate and inclusive for all. You might want to ask a child to lead this.

**'Jesus' Big Family History' Advent Calendar Overview**

Date	Character/Story 	Bible Reference 	Video Source All on YouTube 	'Wondering' Questions..... 
1 <sup>st</sup>	Temptation	Genesis 3:1-7	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VG3D9EOwSyc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VG3D9EOwSyc</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• What do you think the most important part of this story is?</li> <li>• What does this story tell us about temptation?</li> <li>• I wonder how God felt about what happened?</li> <li>• I wonder if Jesus was ever tempted?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Noah's Ark	Genesis 6:9 to 9:17	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iuO1DLKnGC4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iuO1DLKnGC4</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder how God felt about starting again?</li> <li>• How did God rescue Noah?</li> <li>• I wonder why God chose a rainbow as a sign?</li> <li>• I wonder if Jesus ever rescued anyone?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	God's promise to Abraham and Sarah	Genesis 15:1-6	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=foWKaKnJeUw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=foWKaKnJeUw</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder how Abraham felt about leaving his home?</li> <li>• I wonder how it felt to be in a new home?</li> <li>• I wonder how they felt to be told they would have a huge family?</li> <li>• I wonder if you've ever been promised something that's taken a long time to come?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
4 <sup>th</sup>	Isaac is born	Genesis 18:1 - 16 and 21:1-3	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NdqrwGJYePQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NdqrwGJYePQ</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder how Abraham and Sarah felt when God reminded them of His promise?</li> <li>• I wonder why Sarah laughed at what God had said?</li> <li>• I wonder whether you've ever been in an impossible situation?</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I wonder who the 'rescuer' who will be descended from Abraham is?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
5 <sup>th</sup>	God Tests Abraham	Genesis 22:1-19	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJUi0tkS5SQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJUi0tkS5SQ</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder why you think God tested Abraham?</li> <li>• I wonder what might have happened if Abraham had not done what God had asked?</li> <li>• I wonder if God understood how Abraham felt?</li> <li>• I wonder if you've ever had to give up anything that was really precious to you?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
6 <sup>th</sup>	Jacob's Dream	Genesis 28:10-22	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y14g2CH9Wn8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y14g2CH9Wn8</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder why Jacob left his home? And why he travelled alone?</li> <li>• I wonder what Jacob felt about his dream?</li> <li>• I wonder if you've ever had a strange dream like Jacob?</li> <li>• I wonder why God told Jacob not to be afraid?</li> <li>• I wonder if you've ever done a kind deed like Jacob did?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
7 <sup>th</sup>	Joseph's Coat	Genesis 37:1-36	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnlqKPIZQzI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnlqKPIZQzI</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder if you have ever been given a special present?</li> <li>• I wonder if it was right for Jacob to give a present to Joseph and not the other brothers?</li> <li>• I wonder how God felt about the way Joseph's brothers treated him?</li> <li>• I wonder if anyone was given money for being unkind to Jesus?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
8 <sup>th</sup>	God's Rules	Exodus 20:1-20	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rzcYLCYItuc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rzcYLCYItuc</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder if you have rules in your school, or family?</li> <li>• I wonder why it can be so difficult to obey the rules?</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I wonder if there is a rule that you would like people to follow?</li> <li>• I wonder which rule Jesus said was the most important?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
9 <sup>th</sup>	Ruth	The whole book of Ruth	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=irThVpdeSXk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=irThVpdeSXk</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder what you know about Bethlehem?</li> <li>• I wonder if you have a friend who has helped you? When did they help?</li> <li>• I wonder why Ruth decided to leave her own family to go with Naomi?</li> <li>• I wonder how God felt about the way Boaz cared for Ruth?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
10 <sup>th</sup>	Rahab	Joshua 2:1-21	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWkbq50tH5A">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWkbq50tH5A</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder what you think the most important part of this story is?</li> <li>• I wonder who was brave in this story?</li> <li>• I wonder why Rahab decided to help the spies?</li> <li>• I wonder who made a promise in this story ?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
11 <sup>th</sup>	Samuel	1 Samuel 16:1-13	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J_o-YqmuNX8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J_o-YqmuNX8</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder what David's older brothers thought about what happened?</li> <li>• I wonder what this story tells us about who God chooses to do special jobs?</li> <li>• I wonder how we can know what people are like on the inside?</li> <li>• I wonder if people were surprised by what Jesus looked like?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
12 <sup>th</sup>	Solomon	1 Kings 3:5-15	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U9-4sGPeBuE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U9-4sGPeBuE</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder what you would ask for if you were told you could have anything you wanted?</li> <li>• I wonder why Solomon asked to be given wisdom?</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I wonder who you know who is wise?</li> <li>• I wonder why this story is in the Bible?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
13 <sup>th</sup>	Daniel and the Lions	Daniel 6:1-23	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bEM_X25DWPk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bEM_X25DWPk</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder why the King chose Daniel?</li> <li>• I wonder why Daniel continued to pray?</li> <li>• I wonder what you think the most surprising thing about this story is?</li> <li>• I wonder if you've ever had to make a difficult choice like Daniel?</li> <li>• I wonder if Jesus ever had to make a difficult choice?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
14 <sup>th</sup>	The Prophets speak of Jesus	Isaiah 9:2&3, 6&7	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEpSxL4Nn4&amp;feature=emb_lo_go">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEpSxL4Nn4&amp;feature=emb_lo_go</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• Why do you think the Israelites disobeyed God?</li> <li>• I wonder why God gave messages about Jesus to the prophets?</li> <li>• I wonder what people thought when they heard those messages?</li> <li>• I wonder why people didn't recognise Jesus as the Messiah?</li> <li>• I wonder why these words have become so precious to Christians?</li> <li>• What do these words say to you?</li> </ul>
15 <sup>th</sup>	The Lion and the Lamb	Isaiah 11:6-9	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u7GvhiTvPAC">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u7GvhiTvPAC</a> Song	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this song.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> image in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder how God is like a lion?</li> <li>• I wonder how he is like a lamb?</li> <li>• I wonder if God can be both these things at the same time?</li> <li>• I wonder which other animals God might be like?</li> <li>• I wonder if Jesus is like a lion....and a lamb?</li> <li>• What do these ideas say to you?</li> </ul>
16 <sup>th</sup>	Jonah and the Whale	Jonah 1-17 & 2:10	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WOSadLyqshg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WOSadLyqshg</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder why Jonah didn't want to do what God asked?</li> <li>• I wonder if you've ever felt like Jonah?</li> <li>• I wonder how Jonah felt to know that the storm was his fault?</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I wonder what the sailors thought when the storm suddenly stopped?</li> <li>• I wonder how Jonah felt when the people listened to God's message?</li> <li>• I wonder why God decided that Jonah should be inside the fish for 3 days? Does this remind you of anything to do with Jesus?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
17 <sup>th</sup>	Ezekiel and the Dry Bones	Ezekiel 37:1-11	<p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrzBsUtUdts">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrzBsUtUdts</a> Song</p> <p>The prophet Ezekiel had a dream of dry bones coming together and being able to move. This was a message from God that one day his people would come back together again and flourish.</p> <p><b>You might also decide to use this story from a children's Bible, to understand the context.</b></p>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder why God told Ezekiel to go and speak to dry bones?</li> <li>• I wonder what Ezekiel thought of God's idea?</li> <li>• I wonder why God's people were like dry bones?</li> <li>• I wonder if they understood what God was saying to them?</li> <li>• I wonder if God brought anything – or anyone – else back to life again?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
18 <sup>th</sup>	Brave Queen Esther	Esther chapters 1-7	<p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yeD7yAuGI7U">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yeD7yAuGI7U</a></p> <p>The narrator speaks quite fast in this version, so try this if you prefer: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOPgxCeg0ow">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOPgxCeg0ow</a></p>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder who the 'goodies' and 'baddies' are in this story?</li> <li>• How did Esther show she was wise?</li> <li>• How did Queen Esther save the Jewish people?</li> <li>• I wonder why this story is still important to Jewish people?</li> <li>• Do you think it's more important to be beautiful or to be wise?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
19 <sup>th</sup>	Zechariah and Elizabeth	Luke 1: 5-25	<p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yAyH-67WNow">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yAyH-67WNow</a></p>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder how Zechariah felt to see an angel?</li> <li>• I wonder why Zechariah doubted what the angel had said?</li> <li>• I wonder if you've ever doubted what someone had told you?</li> <li>• I wonder what Elizabeth thought?</li> <li>• I wonder if this story reminds you of another story in Jesus' Big Family History? Which one?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>

20 <sup>th</sup>	Jesus' Cousin John	Matthew 3:1-6 & 13-17	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNbwrHp_7Ys">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNbwrHp_7Ys</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b> John was born about 6 months before Jesus. The story in this video took place when Jesus was a grown up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder if you have cousins?</li> <li>• I wonder if Jesus and John had fun together as children?</li> <li>• I wonder if you have ever helped to get your house or school ready for a special visitor?</li> <li>• I wonder how John felt knowing that Jesus was more important than him?</li> <li>• I wonder why Jesus decided to be baptised?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
21 <sup>st</sup>	An Angel Visits Mary	Luke 1:26-38	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LUHFX87OyDI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LUHFX87OyDI</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder if you have ever had to give an important message to someone else?</li> <li>• I wonder if it was scary or exciting when the angel appeared?</li> <li>• I wonder if you have ever been asked to do something difficult?</li> <li>• I wonder why God chose Mary to be Jesus' mum?</li> <li>• I wonder what Mary did when the angel left her?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
22 <sup>nd</sup>	An Angel Visits Joseph	Matthew 1:18-25	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XkEypzmHwCI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XkEypzmHwCI</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder how Joseph felt after the angel gave him the message in a dream?</li> <li>• I wonder if you have ever been confused about what you should do?</li> <li>• I wonder why God choose Joseph to be Jesus 'step-dad'?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Journey to Bethlehem	Luke 2:1-7	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xyhPDMS5VB0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xyhPDMS5VB0</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is <i>this</i> story in Jesus' family history?</li> <li>• I wonder if you can think of any of Jesus' ancestors who lived in Bethlehem?</li> <li>• I wonder if you have ever been on a long journey?</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I wonder what it felt like to be told that there was no room at the inn?</li> <li>• I wonder who might be feeling like that today?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>
24 <sup>th</sup>	Jesus is Born	Luke 2:8-20 & Matthew 2:1-12	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=URMtYSvMJys">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=URMtYSvMJys</a>	<p><b>'Wondering' Questions about this story.....?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I wonder if this is the most important story in the Bible?</li> <li>• Have you ever visited a new baby?</li> <li>• I wonder if your name means something?</li> <li>• I wonder which visitor to the stable you like the best?</li> <li>• I wonder why so many different people visited Jesus when he was a baby?</li> <li>• What does this story say to you?</li> </ul>