



# Growing FAITH at home

FOURTH  
SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT

YEAR A

Advent is a  
season for  
celebrating  
God's promises



GrowMinistries  
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



[www.growministries.org.au](http://www.growministries.org.au)



## CONVERSATIONS

*Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:*

1. What does your name mean?
2. A title for Jesus is 'Immanuel' which means 'God with us'. How have you experienced God 'with you' recently?



## BIBLE READINGS

*Read the following Bible readings throughout this week.  
Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.*

<b>S</b>	<b>Matthew 1:18-25</b>	Immanuel – God with us
<b>M</b>	<b>Isaiah 7:10-16</b>	Isaiah prophesies the birth of Jesus
<b>T</b>	<b>Luke 1:26-33</b>	An angel appears to Mary
<b>W</b>	<b>Luke 1:39-45</b>	Mary visits Elizabeth
<b>T</b>	<b>Matthew 1:1-17</b>	Jesus' genealogy
<b>F</b>	<b>Luke 2:1-7</b>	The birth of Jesus
<b>S</b>	<b>Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19</b>	A prayer for restoration

## VERSE OF THE WEEK

so the Lord's promise came true, just as  
the prophet had said, "A virgin will have a  
baby boy, and he will be called Immanuel,"  
which means 'God is with us.'

MATTHEW 1:22-23





## CREATIVE RESPONSE

Many homes and communities prepare special light displays at Christmas time.

Take a household 'Christmas lights tour' of your community one evening this week. As you travel, sing Christmas carols or listen to Christmas music. You may also wish to set up a home Christmas lights display in your front yard or window.



## MEALTIME PRAYER

Bless our table,  
heavenly Father, and  
all who sit at it.

As we wait for  
Jesus' return, give  
us the gift of sharing  
with others. Amen.



## PRAYER

O come, O come,  
Immanuel. Please  
fill us today with  
your light and grace.  
Amen.



## ACTION RESPONSE

Simple acts of kindness can be as good a gift as those bought and wrapped.

Make up 'kindness vouchers' to give to one another as gifts this Christmas.

Each voucher should list a kind deed that is redeemable during the year e.g. a night off the dishes, a bed made, a room cleaned, a massage provided. Have fun thinking of voucher ideas and preparing them for one another!



## BLESSING

God our Father  
and our Lord Jesus  
Christ be kind to  
you and bless you  
with peace.