

Seek Out the Creative Savion

An Advent Book of Devotions, Rhymes and Seek-And-Find Picture Puzzles



Getting Started!

Let's get out the map. This is where we begin:
In God's perfect world, free of darkness and sin.
'Til one sneaky **snake** steered the people off track.
They picked the wrong **apple**. Now they can't get back.

Day 1 Apple • Read Genesis 2:8-9

The Garden of Eden—now that sounds like the perfect travel destination. God created Eden as a home for Adam and Eve and filled it with plants and creatures for them to enjoy. In the center of the garden God planted the tree of life, a gift to Adam and Eve for eternity. (Find the apple we've hidden to represent that tree.)

From the beginning, God's plan was for Adam and Eve, and for all of us, to live in paradise forever and ever. Keep that perfect place in mind as we begin on our way this season.

Day 2 Snake • Read Genesis 3:1-5, 13-15

Don't follow that snake, Eve. Don't taste that fruit, Adam. That sneaky serpent is trying to lead you the wrong way. (See if you can spot the snake hiding in this picture.) That slithery snake—Satan—wants Eve and Adam to stop following God and go their own way. And that's sin!

Adam and Eve chose to disobey God's command. And because of that sin, they had to travel far from the garden and leave behind the tree of life.

But even here, at the very beginning of our journey, God is mapping out a new plan. God tells Adam and Eve that someone will come to crush that serpent once and for all. And when that happens, the way to paradise will be opened up again.

**Find two cows, a watch, a tree.
How many pineapples do you see?**



All Aboard!

Which way do we go when the floodwaters rise,
And the rains start to fall, and clouds darken the skies?
With a **hammer** in hand, Noah plans to go boating.
He will gladly plant **grapes** when he's no longer floating.

Day 3 Hammer • Read Genesis 6:5-8; 7:13-16

Because of sin, the people of the world were on the wrong course. God wanted to wash them away in a great flood and start creation over again.

But God thought of another way. God threw the world a life preserver in the form of an enormous ark. Faithful Noah and his family would be saved from the flood—along with a pair of each creature in the world—by getting on board the ark God told him to build.

Look for Noah's hammer in this watery picture. And thank God for saving Noah when there was no other way.

Day 4 Grapes • Read Genesis 9:8-13, 20

The waters of the flood receded, the doors of the ark opened, and the world was filled with new life. Noah knelt down on the ground in praise. He thanked God for providing a way through the water. Noah went straight to work planting a vineyard of grapes: proof that God's gift of life goes on.

We, like Noah, need to be rescued. Sin is all around us, threatening to pull us down. But God sends us a life preserver. God's Son, Jesus, pulls us from the flood of sin and carries us toward that new life.

As we begin our search for the Savior God promised, remember that it is God who provides the way.

Look for a **mittens**, a **sailboat**, an **ace**,
Two **chocolate bars**, a **frowning face**.



Get Trucking!

It's hard work on the farm when you'd rather get truckin'.
For 400 years, all God's people were stuck
In the country of Egypt. Find **pyramids** there,
And a bright **burning bush**. God will answer their prayer.

Day 5 Pyramid • Read Genesis 15:5-6

God made a promise to a traveling man named Abraham. "You will have more descendants than there are stars in the sky," God promised. God kept that promise. Abraham's descendants were known as the Israelites. They were God's chosen people—also called "the people of the promise." These traveling people moved to the land of Egypt where, the Bible tells us, "they multiplied and filled the land."

As we join this mobile family on our way to Christmas, remember the very good news that Abraham learned. God keeps a promise.

God had made another promise to Abraham as well. "Through one of your descendants, the whole world will be blessed," God said. Let's wait, this Advent, along with patient Abraham for that promise to come true.

Day 6 Burning Bush • Read Exodus 3:6-10

I see an evergreen bush lit up with red light! Now we must be on the right way. But wait! It wasn't a Christmas tree that caught Moses' eye. It was a burning bush. God had news to share with Moses, and that bright bush was the best way to get Moses' attention.

God's people were living as slaves in Egypt. They cried out to God, praying to be saved from slavery. If they could get God's attention, perhaps God would free them.

But God had always been watching over them, even when they were living in slavery. God did hear their cries, and God knew the time was right to free them all.

"Go to the king of Egypt," God said to Moses from the burning bush. "Tell king Pharaoh to let my people go!" Pay attention, because God is coming to save!

A **trophy**, a **turnip**, a **tooth** and a **tie**,
A **snail**, a **croissant** and an order of **fries**.



Seek Out the Savior



An Advent Book of Devotions, Rhymes
and Seek-And-Find Picture Puzzles

Let's take a good look at Advent. What hidden sights will we see? An angel? A donkey? A pair of sandals? Now that we've found them, just what do these hidden objects mean? This season, children will discover the answer to these Advent questions and more as they search through brightly-illustrated Seek-and-Find pictures for the hidden objects that tell the story of God's promise, made in the garden of Eden, to send the Savior.

Daily rhymes, devotions and Bible verses help children discover God's plan for our salvation through his Son, Jesus.