

LOOK Around the Stable



Advent Daily
Devotions for Kids

Look around the stable
To see what you can see—
In this most simple holy place
The Lord was born for me!

Look around the stable
To see what you might find
When Jesus Christ, the Lord of all,
was born for humankind.

So look around the stable
At that most holy birth
And you will see the special place
Where Christ came down to earth.

LOOK Around the Stable

Advent Daily
Devotions for Kids



First Sunday of Advent

Straw

Have you ever walked into a room and noticed that it smelled *clean*? Not just *looked* clean (sometimes when things are clean we just don't notice how they look)—but *smelled* clean?

Perhaps the first thing we notice as we look around the stable is not so much something we see as something we smell. Fresh straw does have a kind of clean smell. Somebody probably spread the straw around to help make the stable clean, maybe knowing a baby was about to be born there.

Cleaning often goes with preparing, getting ready—like when company is coming. During these Advent weeks, we're supposed to be getting ready for Christ to come. Jesus came the first time to make us truly clean. Look around the stable. The straw says, "Get ready!"

Is there something you could do to help prepare for Christmas? Maybe a room (or a part of one) that you could clean?

Lord Jesus:

**Come into my heart this Advent season,
and make it truly clean. Even so,
help me prepare for your coming. Amen.**

First Monday of Advent

Wood

Look around the stable. Maybe the things you notice most of all are the big timbers that hold up the walls and ceiling. They help you feel it's safe in here.

Someday Jesus would be nailed to wooden timbers like those, formed into a cross. The reason: to give us a sturdy covering, to take our sins away and cover us with his strong love, like a roof over our heads—so we can always feel safe.

Look around. The wood in the stable says, 'Here you are safe!'

Now look around the place where you are right now. What is the biggest, strongest thing you can see that is made of wood?

Lord Jesus:

I know that I can trust in you.

You will never let me down. Amen.

First Tuesday of Advent

Stones

Look around the stable. Do you see the stones?
Stones come in many sizes.

Big stones are used to build things—like walls to keep out what you don't want in, what might, in fact, be dangerous.

Little stones? Well, once a shepherd named David used a small stone in his sling to defeat an awful enemy.

And one day a huge stone would be rolled away from in front of Jesus' tomb to let us know that the worst enemy of all has been defeated, death.

Look around the stable. All of those stones say, "God will take care of you!"

Are there any stones (or things made of stone) where you live? How do you use them?

Lord Jesus:

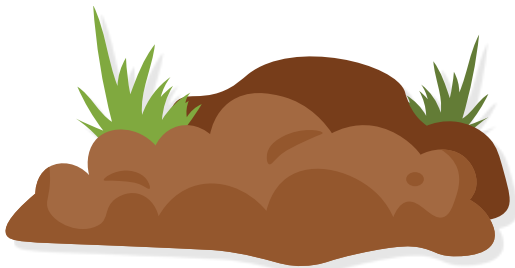
Help me build my life on you.
You are the best foundation! Amen.



First Wednesday of Advent

Dirt

Dirt? Yes, *dirt*. Look around the stable, and there's bound to be dirt, the way there's bound to be dirt almost everywhere, no matter how hard you try to deal with it. Dirt is basic.



The Bible says that human beings are made from “the dust of the earth”—that the Lord God breathed into us to give us life.

And now, Jesus is coming to where we are to be one of us, coming to where the problem is. He is coming to breathe life into us all over again.

Look around the stable. The dirt says, “Jesus meets you right where you need him!”

Dirt is often regarded as a nuisance, and it can be. But today, think of something good to say about dirt.

Lord Jesus:

We are dust, and to dust we must return.

**But you have promised to raise us again
and give us life. Come to my heart right now, dear
Lord, and make it clean. Amen.**

LOOK Around the Stable

Advent is a time for getting ready. Soon we will celebrate the birth of Christ ... and always we look forward to the day when Christ will come again.

When Jesus first came to earth, a stable was ready to be his birthplace. The devotions in this book invite you each day to "Look Around the Stable," for so much of what you see there can help you get ready too.

Ready? Look around the stable!

By Arden W. Mead. Art by Justin Dial. © 2025 Creative Communications for the Parish, a division of Bayard, Inc.. All rights reserved. Printed in the USA.



1564 Fencorp Dr., Fenton, MO 63026
800-325-9414 • www.creativecommunications.com



LK3

bayard