

Jesse Tree Advent Devotional: Specific Wondering Questions

Week 1

Day 1: God) I wonder why God decided to create the world? I wonder if it was hard work? I wonder if He got tired? How does the Bible tell us that God felt about what He made? I wonder if anything God created was His favorite?

Day 2: Adam and Eve) I wonder what it was like for Adam and Eve living in God's beautiful garden. I wonder why Adam and Eve listened to the snake. I wonder who we would have listened to if we had been in the garden.

Day 3: Noah) I wonder why everyone everywhere in the world (besides Noah and his family) had forgotten about God. I wonder why the other people laughed at Noah. I wonder how Noah and his family felt when they were finally able to leave the ark. I wonder what they might have said to God.

Day 4: Abraham and Sarah) I wonder how Abraham felt when God promised him a family bigger than all the stars in the sky? I wonder if Abraham trusted God's promise. I wonder when Sarah decided that she could trust God too. I wonder if God has ever broken a promise.

Day 5: Isaac) I wonder how Abraham felt as he and Isaac walked up the mountain together. I wonder why God said, "STOP!" I wonder how the ram got caught in the bushes.

Day 6: Jacob) I wonder why Jacob agreed to trick his Father, Isaac? I wonder how Jacob's brother, Esau felt about this. I wonder what promises God and Jacob made to each other?

Day 7: Joseph) I wonder why Joseph's brothers sold him. I wonder why the king asked for Joseph to tell him what his dream meant. I wonder how Joseph felt when he saw his brothers again after so many years. How did God use Joseph to save his family?

Week 2

Day 8: Moses) I wonder what Moses might have been thinking when God told him to hold his staff up toward the water. I wonder how the children of Israel felt as they watched the miracle of the sea opening so they could cross. I wonder why they soon began complaining in the wilderness.

Day 9: Joshua and Rahab) I wonder why Joshua sent spies to Jericho. I wonder why Rahab decided to help the spies. I wonder how the children of Israel felt when they heard how God wanted them to fight for Jericho. I wonder how the people of Jericho felt when they saw God's people marching. I wonder if the spies helped Rahab too. I wonder who won the Battle of Jericho.

Day 10: Ruth) I wonder why Ruth stayed with Naomi. I wonder why Boaz left extra grain for Ruth. I wonder why Naomi thought Ruth and Boaz should get married. I wonder when God likes to turn sadness into happiness. I wonder who He can use in His plan.

Day 11: Samuel) I wonder who was calling Samuel that night. I wonder who Samuel thought was calling him. I wonder why God chose to speak to Samuel. I wonder if God can speak to you.

Day 12: Jesse) I wonder how Jesse felt when Samuel told him one of his sons would be the new king of Israel. I wonder which of his sons Jesse thought would be the one. I wonder why God chose David. I wonder how Jesse felt as David's father.

Day 13: David) I wonder why David thought he could fight the giant. I wonder why he didn't even wear any armor. I wonder how David's heart became like God's. I wonder if you and I could have a heart like God's. I wonder how God feels about us.

Day 14: Job) I wonder why God had blessed Job. I wonder why Satan wanted to take away Job's blessings. I wonder why Job still trusted God when his blessings were taken away. I wonder why Job's friends told him he must have done something wrong. I wonder when is a good time to trust God.

Week 3

Day 15: Elijah) I wonder why the Israelites decided to worship the idol. I wonder why Elijah challenged the priests of Baal. I wonder why Elijah asked for the altar to be soaked with water. I wonder how the children of Israel felt when fire from heaven burned Elijah's sacrifice.

Day 16: Elisha) I wonder how the Syrians felt when they surrounded the children of Israel. I wonder how Elisha felt when he saw God's angel army. I wonder why Elisha set the Syrians free.

Day 17: Daniel) I wonder why Daniel did not follow the new law to worship only the king. I wonder how Daniel was unharmed when he spent the night in the lions' den. I wonder how God used Daniel's story to help others.

Day 18: Esther) I wonder why Esther did not tell the King she was an Israelite at first. I wonder how Esther felt when she found out the Israelites were in danger. I wonder how God used Esther to save her people.

Day 19: Isaiah) I wonder how Isaiah felt when he got to peek into heaven. I wonder what was God's special message for Isaiah. I wonder who the message was about. I wonder who God hoped would hear His message.

Day 20: Mary) I wonder what Gabriel said to Mary. I wonder how Mary felt when she heard this news. I wonder how others felt when they heard. I wonder how you feel when you hear this good news.

Day 21: Zachariah and Elisabeth) I wonder what Gabriel said to Zachariah. I wonder why Zachariah did not believe. I wonder how Elisabeth felt when her baby came. I wonder how Zachariah changed.

Week 4

Day 22: John the Baptist) I wonder what special job God gave to John. I wonder why people wanted John to baptize them. I wonder how John felt when Jesus asked to be baptized. I wonder how God felt when Jesus was baptized.

Day 23: The Magi) I wonder how the wise men knew the star was a sign. I wonder why they traveled so far and so long. I wonder why they went to Herod's palace first. I wonder how the wise men felt when they found him. I wonder why Jesus was not born in a palace.

Day 24: Jesus) I wonder how Mary and Joseph felt when they could not find a place to stay. I wonder why God gave his wonderful gift in a stable. I wonder what "Emmanuel" means. I wonder who God's gift was for.

Christmas Day: Christ) I wonder why one star shined brightest. I wonder how God shared His wonderful news. I wonder why God told the shepherds first instead of the important rulers that night. I wonder how the shepherds found Jesus. I wonder what they did when they found him. I wonder if they held him. I wonder how God shares His wonderful news with us. I wonder how we find Jesus. I wonder what we do when we find him.