ADVENT CALENDAR/NATIVITY ORNAMENTS

The following pages are pieces of a paper-craft Advent calendar. Kids can have fun coloring the characters from the Advent Story, and the numbers for the front of the calendar. Parents or older kids should take on the dangerous task of using a Craft knife and cutting board to cut out the slots and tabs. Kids school-age and beyond should be able to handle assembling, with some help, the pieces of the calendar, and then parents should load up the calendars with candy and the ornaments/characters before attaching the front. NOTE: Later pages REPRINT the calendar in COLOR, at least the front of the calendar and the Nativity Cards.

The characters can be put onto a cardboard ‘Jesse Tree’ or a cardboard nativity. It would need to be a large one, and thumbtacks or hooks, or even looped rubberbands, can hang the characters on whatever you decide to use for a memorable display.

All pages except this one should be printed on sturdy cardstock. Tools you will need are: Crayons or coloring pencils, safety scissors, a Craft (Xacto) Knife or craft knife, and cutting board, holepunch, scotch tape and school glue. Some patience and prayer might help too. 😊

The pages are in the following order (Calendar back wall, Front, Horizontal cubby walls, Outer Frame, Vertical cubby walls, Backs of Advent characters, Fronts of Advent characters. Recommend you print the characters on front and back of a single sheet of cardstock, but you can print it on two and use school glue to glue the two pieces together.

BACK: (Adults) Use the Craft knife and cutting board to cut slots where you see the thick dark lines.

FRONT: (kids) COLOR the numbers and faces first as desired. (Adults) Use the Craft knife to cut the dotted lines ONLY, to prep the doors to open.

HORIZONTAL: (kids) Cut ALL the thick lines with safety scissors. This would be four (4) walls with slots and tabs.

OUTER: (kids) Cut the lines, EXCEPT the ones that say ‘FOLD’, with safety scissors.

VERTICAL – (kids) Cut ALL the thick lines with safety scissors. Tabs with hooks, and slots.

CHARACTERS: (kids) COLOR all the characters and cards around them. Color the backs if desired. Cut the dark lines out with safety scissors, and glue the halves together if it’s on two sheets. (Adults) Use a hole punch to punch holes in the cards where the circles are.

ASSEMBLY: (kids, with adult help): (1) Take the back and vertical cards, and insert the tabs in the vertical lines, sliding them down to lock them in. (2) take the horizontal walls and connect the slots to the slots in the verticals, forming cubbies. The tabs should go into the slots on the back wall. (3) flip the assembly over and tape or glue the tabs down to the back wall, folding them over to lock them in tight. (4) fold the vertical outer frame walls as indicated, and tape or glue the frame around the assembly, making sure the assembly fits inside the frame. (4) with the face down, tape all the way around, taping the frame to the back wall. (5) (Adults) Load the characters based on the day they are supposed to appear, along with candy, in each cubby, making very sure all of them are in their proper cubby. (6) (Adults) place the FRONT onto the assembly and tape around the perimeter.





