

## Advent

# Object Talk

### Scripture Background

Isaiah 9:1-7

### Materials

Bible with bookmark at Isaiah 9:6, Advent wreath and candles; optional—picture of Advent wreath, matches.

### Lead the Activity

1. **What are some ways your family gets ready to celebrate Jesus' birth?** Volunteers answer. **A word that some people use when they talk about getting ready to celebrate**

**Jesus' birth is the word "Advent." Advent not only describes the season of the year in which we celebrate Jesus' birth, but it also describes four Sundays before Christmas when we can especially look forward or get ready to celebrate Christmas.**

2. Show Advent wreath. (Optional: Show picture of Advent wreath.)

**On the first Sunday of Advent only the first candle is lit.**

(Optional: Light candles as you describe them.) **The first candle is called the Hope candle. It reminds us of Old Testament times**

**when God's people hoped and waited for the Savior God had promised to send.**

**On each of the following Sundays, another candle is lit. The second, or Peace**

**candle, reminds us of the peace Jesus gives us. The third, or Joy candle, reminds**

**us of the joy we feel at Jesus' birth. The fourth, or Love candle, reminds us of**

**God's love for us and our love for God. Sometimes a fifth candle, called the**

**Christ candle, is placed in the center of the Advent wreath. It is lit on Christ-**

**mas Eve or Christmas Day to remind us of Jesus' birth.** (Optional: As each candle

is explained, invite volunteers to suggest a motion for the name of each candle. Ask students

to describe other objects used at Advent—calendars, daily Advent candle, etc.)

### Conclude

**The prophet Isaiah looked forward to the coming of God's promised Savior. Listen**

**to what Isaiah wrote.** Read Isaiah 9:6 aloud. **This verse reminds us that Jesus is**

**the reason we celebrate!** Pray, thanking God for His love and for sending His Son, Jesus.

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### Additional Information for Older Students

**What colors of candles have you seen in Advent wreaths?** Students tell. **Three**

**purple candles are sometimes used in Advent wreaths to remind us of God's**

**royalty. A pink or rose candle may be used for the Joy candle. The Christ candle**

**is usually white and reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world.**

**Advent not only celebrates Jesus' birth and the first time He came to earth,**

**but it's also a time to look forward to His return!** (Optional: Read Acts 1:9-11.)

*At this time of year, we're getting ready to celebrate the birthday of Jesus, the Savior sent by God. One word that describes this time of year means the same as "arrival" or "coming." Let's find out what this celebration is.*

