Advent Week 4: Love

Waiting for the King who will come again

Ages about 7-11 | Video 2:26 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth Jesus came among us, remains with us, and will return in glory; our waiting can be full of love.

Learning goals Distinguish Jesus' birth from his promised return; recall his promise of presence; and plan one loving action while we wait.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online Open this video on Servus Dei

Before watching | 2 minutes

Ask what helps while waiting for something good. Listen for the two comings of Jesus and what we can do between them.

Watch and notice

Notice Bethlehem, Jesus' life, death and Resurrection, his promise to remain with us, and the vision of creation made new.

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. Which two comings does the reflection describe?
Jesus came in humility at Bethlehem and will return in glory. Advent remembers the first and looks toward the second.

2. Has Jesus left us alone while we wait?
No. He promised to remain with his people; the reflection points to Mass, prayer, and love.

3. What hope does the ending offer?
God will make creation new and overcome sorrow. This is a promise of his final victory, not a prediction of a date.

4. How can our waiting become loving?
Name a concrete choice: pray for someone, share fairly, help with a task, or welcome a classmate.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

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Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Draw the child Jesus in Bethlehem. Then draw one way you can share love while waiting for Christmas. Accept an oral explanation.

Read & Write Recall the story, explain its central teaching, then apply it through a specific choice.

Adapt by readiness

Ages 7-8: draw or dictate answers; revisit the named story moment together.

Ages 9-11: explain the connection between the story detail and the planned response.

Between the two comings | Optional 4 minutes

Fold paper into three panels: Bethlehem, Today, and Jesus in Glory. Draw one story image in each outside panel. In the middle, write a loving action for today and decide when to do it. Share how waiting changes when we trust Jesus.

Look for understanding Look for the named story details in the answers and a practical response connected to hopeful waiting and active love.

Closing prayer Jesus, thank you for coming to us. Help us wait with hope and show your love today. Amen.

At home Show your three panels to an adult and carry out the action in the Today panel.

Handout answer notes First coming: Jesus was born at Bethlehem. Promise: he remains with us and will return. Responses should name a realistic loving action.

Teach with care

Provide paper and pencils. Preview the video and invite children to ask questions or pass. This is an Advent reflection, not a schedule of future events. Christian hope does not require denying grief or forcing a child to feel cheerful.

Words to explain Advent: a season of preparing for Jesus. Second Coming: Jesus' return in glory. Hope: trusting God's faithful promises.

Sources for the leader

Story source: Servus Dei video and English transcript

Background: Matthew 28:16-20: Jesus remains with us

Background: Revelation 21:1-5: creation made new