

2020 VISION

FOCUS ON CHRISTMAS

2020 has not turned out quite like any of us were expecting.

Sometimes that happens! This year probably threw you for a loop, school and work looked different, summer looked different, spending time with friends and family looked different, everything looked different. This year held pain, sacrifice, and confusion. But, this year also held joy, excitement, and blessings. Over the next few weeks leading up to Christmas, this devotional will lead your family through the story of Jesus' birth, but in a little bit of a different way (this is, after all, a different year, right?!). We're going to use our 2020 vision to see the whole Christmas story! When someone has 20/20 vision, it means their eyes can see clearly, even from far away. They don't just see part of the vision chart at the eye doctor's, they see the whole thing! That's going to be our goal for the next month, we don't want to just see the unexpected, confusing, or hard parts of life—we want to see the whole picture.

Here's the thing, the coming of a Savior didn't look quite like people expected either. But, did you know that it happened exactly as God intended? Things that seem unexpected to us never catch God off guard. Together, we'll look at the "not so expected" parts of the story and through doing so, we'll see that God has both the expected and the unexpected woven into all of our stories from the very beginning.

INSTRUCTIONS

**There are nine days total, you can space them out however you'd like.
Each day will have three parts:**

An Old Testament passage of prophecy:

Prophecy is the act of someone speaking something before it happens. Prophecies were given to people from God; these are not a well-informed guess or an act of magic or a possibility: they are the words of God being spoken by man.

A New Testament passage:

These will show us the fulfillment of the prophecy. God knew what was going to happen all along, even if it didn't make sense to people!

A 2020 Vision Question:

This is a question to spark conversation in your family. Whoever is answering gets to wear the "2020" glasses. Pass them around as each member answers!

We hope this helps you reflect on both the Christmas story and the ways that God has shown up throughout this year. Merry Christmas and Happy 2020!



A messenger will prepare the way for Messiah

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:3-5

Who prepared a way for Jesus?

New Testament: Luke 3:3-6

How did John the Baptist prepare the way for Jesus?

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In what ways can you see that God prepared you for this year?

The Savior will come as a Baby

Old Testament: Isaiah 9:6

How do these names describe Jesus?

New Testament: Luke 2:4-7

Why is it unique that our Savior came as a baby?

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What name of Jesus have you seen most in your life this year?

The Messiah will be born of a virgin

Old Testament: Isaiah 7:14

In Hebrew, "Immanuel" means "God with us". How does this describe Jesus?

New Testament: Luke 1:26-31

Why do you think Mary was scared when the angel came to her?

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In what ways have you seen Jesus be "Immanuel" in your life this year?

The Messiah will be born in Bethlehem

Old Testament: Micah 5:2

How does this verse describe Bethlehem?

New Testament: Matthew 2:1

Why do you think Jesus was born in such a small town?

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What is something small that's had a big impact on your life this year?



The Messiah will come from the line of Abraham

Old Testament: Genesis 12:1-3

Through whom did God make Abraham's name great?

New Testament: Matthew 1:1-16

What is a "genealogy"? What does this genealogy help us understand?

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Jesus came from a real family. How has your family helped each other this year?

The Messiah will be heir to King David's throne

Old Testament: Isaiah 9:7


Who was King David?

New Testament: Luke 1:32-33

Where will Jesus' throne be?

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How does a good king reign over their kingdom? How did you see Jesus reigning over us this year?



Messiah's throne will be anointed and eternal

Old Testament: Daniel 2:44

What does "eternal" mean?

New Testament: Luke 1:33

What kingdom has no end?

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Jesus is eternal, He is forever! The seasons we live in have an ending, 2020 is about to end in just a few weeks. Has it been difficult to remember this season will end, why or why not?

The Messiah will be declared the Son of God

Old Testament: Psalm 2:7

What was special about Jesus' father?

New Testament: Matthew 3:16-17

What did God say about Jesus after He was baptized?

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What are some ways you see that God delights in you?



The Messiah will be called King

Old Testament: Zechariah 9:9

Who is the king this verse talks about? What is he bringing?

New Testament: Matthew 27:37

Why did they call Him "King of the Jews"?

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A king is someone who makes decisions for us. What are some things the world makes their "king"? Why is Jesus the best king of all?