kidzone LEADERS' guide

28 NOV 2026



THIS Week...

This week we're talking about Advent.

TODAY'S BIBLE VERSES: John 1:9, Luke 2:11

BUZZ WORDS: mission, the Bible

BEFORE today's lesson:

- Make sure you have all the materials you need for the 'Welcome Zone' and 'Fun Zone' activities.
- Gather together all the required ingredients for 'Grub Zone'.
- Have enough *Kidzone* magazines for every child!
- Print off the 'Beyond the Zone' card.

When preparing your program, consider each of the 'zones' and how they will best work in your context.
You may like to mix up the order in which you do the 'zones'. You will, however, need to remember the 'Welcome Zone' needs to start the session, the 'Zone In' section needs to follow the 'God Zone', and the 'Beyond the Zone' happens at home.



SET UP an Advent wreath with four candles on a table.
The first candle can be lit later in the session when chatting about the meaning of Advent in Zone In.



(7-10 mins)

MAKE edible candles to introduce Advent and the tradition of Advent wreaths/ candles (see Zone In).
Using skewers, thread on pieces of banana, squares of watermelon or marshmallows and top with something red or yellow for a flame, such as a mandarin segment or jube. See pic below for inspiration.





(10-15 mins)

READ the story on pages 4 and 5.

PULL out the colouring-in Advent calendar on pages 8 and 9.
The children could paste their pages onto construction paper or thin cardboard to make it more stable, and glue on a loop of ribbon or string to the back of it so they can hang up their calendar.

COLOUR in the heading 'ADVENT 2026' in preparation for the first day of colouring, 1 December.



(5-7 mins)

READ Samuel's mega puzzle on page 14.

CHAT about Advent calendars the children may have had last year or are maybe looking forward to this year.

Talk about how exciting and fun it is to look forward to Christmas.

PRAY: Thank you God for the fun and excitement we have in the lead-up to Christmas Day, but most of all thank you for the birth of Jesus.

DO the code puzzle.



(5 mins)

EXPLAIN Advent to your class.
Starting on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, Advent is a time of waiting, giving us four weeks to prepare for the joy and hope of Jesus' birth.

CHAT about how an Advent wreath is a way churches often mark Advent – every Sunday during the four weeks of Advent, a candle is lit to represent the light of Jesus and the hope and joy coming into the world with his birth.

CONSIDER having an Advent wreath/candles to light with your class for the next four weeks.
Light the first candle.

GIVE OUT the 'Beyond the Zone' cards and read through the activities.

GET READY FOR NEXT WEEK ...

To make the recipes and crafts next week you will need the following:



CHEFFY'S BROWNIE ORNAMENT

- Pre-prepared chocolate brownie
- Icing
- Christmas sprinkles
- Chocolate cup
- Mini candy canes

KIDZONE CHRISTMAS PLAYSET

- *Kidzone* magazine
- Thin cardboard
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Blu Tack or paper clips





Sign-up to receive the Kidzone Leaders' Guide upload alert each week – amazing!

Visit our website for more info (and heaps of fun), kidzonemag.com.au/kidzone-leaders-guide



We'd love to see some photos of your kids' church members enjoying the activities to include in the *Kidzone* magazine!
Email a picture of your group to kidzone@salvationarmy.org.au
***Please get permission from parents before sending photos and include a copy of signed parental consent for *Kidzone* to print image.**



BEYOND the ZONE kz

Have a go at some of these:

Tell your fam the Advent jokes on **page 2,** then **make Cheffy's** gingerbread Advent calendar on **pages 10 and 11.** Yum!

Colour in your Advent calendar each day, thanking (praying to) God for Christmas and the birth of Jesus.

Colour in the colouring in competition and send it in to Kidzone HQ.



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