

INSTRUCTIONS

- Print & Color or Print on color paper
- Cut the hanger and all 25 paper chain strips along the lines.
- 3 Prepare the Hanger

Punch a small hole at the top for hanging and thread a ribbon or twine loop.

Locate the horizontal line near the bottom and cut to make a slit —you'll use this to attach your chain.

4 Make the Chain starting with the Dec 25 strip

Slip the Dec 25 strip through the slit in the hanger from front to back.

Form it into a loop below the hanger and glue, staple or tape the ends together.

This becomes the top link of your countdown chain.

Add the Next Links

Slide the Dec 24 strip through the Dec 25 loop and secure the ends to make the next loop.

Continue linking each strip in order until Dec 1 is last - the first link that you'll tear off.

1 Display & Countdown

Hang your chain where everyone can see!

Each day, tear off one link, read the nativity story and verse together.

On Christmas Day, read Isaiah 9:6 and celebrate the birth of Jesus!

ANOTHER COUNTDOWN OPTION: Assemble the chain day by day

From Dec 1 to Dec 25, cut out the day's strip, color, read the story and verse. Create the day's loop and link the loops day by day. On Christmas Day, create the last loop to complete the chain and attach it to the hanger for display!



1

An Angel Visits Mary

The angel Gabriel visits Mary with a special message from God.

Luke 1:26-28



DEC 2

Good News for Mary

Gabriel tells Mary she will have a baby —God's own Son, Jesus.

Luke 1:30-31

DEC 3 Alays until Christmas



Mary Says Yes!

Mary trusts God and says, "Let it be as you have said."

Luke 1:38

DEC 4 days until Christmas



Journey to Visit Elizabeth

Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth, who is filled with joy.

Luke 1:39-42





Mary's Song of Praise

Mary thanks God with a happy song for His goodness.

Luke 1:46-47



Joseph's Dream

An angel tells Joseph not to be afraid to marry Mary, for her baby is from God.

Matthew 1:20-21



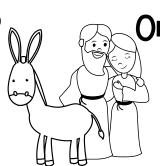


The Roman Census

Caesar orders everyone to travel to their hometowns to be counted.

Luke 2:1-3





On the Road to Bethlehem

Mary and Joseph begin their long journey together.

Luke 2:4-5



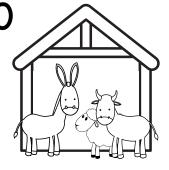


No Room at the Inn

When they arrive, there's no place for them to stay.

Luke 2:7

DEC 10 days until Christmas



The Stable

Mary and Joseph find shelter in a humble stable with animals

Luke 2:7





Waiting for the Baby

Mary and Joseph get ready to welcome God's promised Son.

Luke 2:6

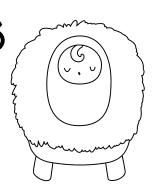


The Baby Is Born!

Jesus is born in the stable —God's Son has come!

Luke 2:7



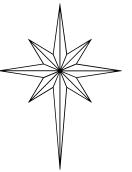


Laid in a Manger

Mary wraps baby Jesus in soft cloths and lays Him in the manger.

Luke 2:7





The Star Appears

A bright star shines in the sky to show the Savior has come.

Matthew 2:2





Angels in the Sky

Angels appear to shepherds in the fields nearby.

Luke 2:8-9





Good News of Great Joy

The angels tell the shepherds that a Savior has been born!

Luke 2:10-11





Songs of Heaven

The sky fills with singing angels praising God.

Luke 2:13-14



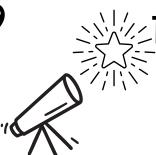


The Shepherds Visit

The shepherds hurry to Bethlehem to see baby Jesus.

Luke 2:15-16



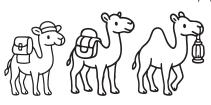


The Wise Men See a Star

Far away, wise men notice a new star in the sky.

Matthew 2:1-2





The Long Journey

The wise men follow the star to find the newborn King.

Matthew 2:2





King Herod Hears the News

King Herod learns about the baby and feels worried.

Matthew 2:3-4

DEC 22
days until
Christmas



Following the Star

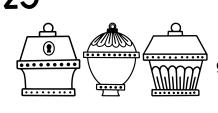
The wise men travel until the star stops over Bethlehem.

Matthew 2:9-10

DEC 23

days until

Christmas



Gifts for Jesus

The wise men bring gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:11

DEC 24
day until
Christmas



Mary Treasures These Things

Mary quietly treasures all these memories in her heart.

Luke 2:19

DEC 25

Today we celebrate the greatest gift — Jesus Christ, our Savior, is born!

It's Christmas!

