

GOOD NEWS  
of  
*Great Joy!*  
by Sally Michael



ILLUSTRATIONS BY: NICOLE MANUEL

*Good News of Great Joy*  
By Sally Michael

Our vision at Truth78 is that the next generations know, honor, and treasure God, setting their hope in Christ alone, so that they will live as faithful disciples for the glory of God.

Our mission is to inspire and equip the church and the home for the comprehensive discipleship of the next generation.

We equip churches and parents by producing curriculum for Sunday School, Midweek Bible, Intergenerational, Youth, and Backyard Bible Club settings; vision-casting and training resources (many available free on our website) for both the church and the home; materials and training to help parents in their role in discipling children; and the Fighter Verses™ Bible memory program to encourage the lifelong practice and love of Bible memory.

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to Know, Honor and Treasure God

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# A NOTE TO PARENTS

This book is a companion to *Good News of Great Joy Family Advent Calendar and Readings*, published by Truth78. As such, it can be used in several ways:

- As a resource for a very young child in the family who will need help understanding the main point of the Bible reading for the day.
- As a review of key points and facts of the daily Bible passages. You might choose to do only the section corresponding to the daily reading, or you might choose to review previous pages either by reading parts of the text or by talking about the content using your own wording.
- If you have no older children and will not be reading the Scripture portion or only part of the Scripture portion on the Advent calendar cards, you could choose to use the book as the main teaching tool and reveal the calendar cards each day.

However you decide to use the book, we recommend reading just one section each day. Look at the picture with your child. Read the words, stopping to explain any words or concepts your child does not understand. Discuss the biblical truths and work of God revealed in the text. Pray with your child. Your child can then reveal the picture on the calendar for the day.

If you are also reading the Scripture portions in the *Family Advent Calendar and Readings* with children in the family, you could follow up with the corresponding pages in this book, or you could start with the pages in this book and then do the corresponding readings in the *Family Advent Calendar and Readings*. You may want to quickly review the main point of previous pages as you continue along in the book. The book and calendar content can also be reviewed using the *Good News of Great Joy Coloring Book*.

This book can be used alone or alongside the *Good News of Great Joy Family Advent Calendar and Readings* as well as a related coloring book. It is not intended to be read through in one sitting. Ideally, it is to be used as a daily Advent devotional by reading and discussing the sections for the corresponding dates in December.



RIGHTEOUS

*December 1*  
**A CHILDLESS COUPLE**

**Meet Zechariah and Elizabeth. They look like a grandma and a grandpa, don't they? But they aren't. They don't have any grandchildren . . . They don't even have any children! They had prayed many years for a child. But Elizabeth never had a baby. Now she was too old.**

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**Luke 1:5-10**



*December 12*

## BETHLEHEM: A PROPHECY FULFILLED

What a long trip this would be for Mary, who was almost ready for her baby to come. Why did they have to go to Bethlehem now? Was this a mistake? Didn't God know that Jesus was going to be born soon?

God knows everything! And He never makes a mistake! A long time before Jesus was born, God had said that the Savior would be born in Bethlehem, not in Nazareth where Joseph and Mary lived. When God says that something will happen, it always happens.

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**Micah 5:2; Luke 2:4-5**



How easy it is to get caught up in the excitement and busyness of the Christmas season! Yet this most wonderful time of the year is really the celebration of the birth of Jesus and is full of opportunities to help your child to reflect on the wonder of God sending His Son to earth in human form.

AMIDST THE LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS, JESUS SHINES AS THE TRUE LIGHT WHO CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS.

The *Good News of Great Joy* children's book is a simple Advent resource to help your family stop and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas, marvel at the providential events surrounding the birth of Jesus, and give thanks for God's provision of the One who has given us "the right to become children of God."

This book can be used alone or alongside the *Good News of Great Joy Family Advent Calendar and Readings* as well as a related coloring book. It is not intended to be read through in one sitting. Ideally, it is to be used as a daily Advent devotional by reading and discussing the sections for the corresponding dates in December.

