

ADVENT CALENDAR
"THE COMING OF JESUS, LIGHT OF THE WORLD"

SUPPLIES NEEDED

For the background

- *1 hanger in good condition, at least about 16" wide (if plastic, choose a color that complements gift wrap)
- *1 or 2 pieces gift wrap, plain OR a print with minimal white (for contrast to tree), 40" long by width of hanger
(Use 1 piece heavy weight paper or double the paper back- to-back. Be sure print will be going the right direction when hanging from the hanger. If the paper has a pattern with a direction running the width instead of the length, it will need to be 40" wide. Be sure to make the pieces exactly square so they will hang right when the project is done. A piece of 8 ½ x 11 paper can help guide you in making sure it's square. If doubling gift wrap, lightly glue back of corner of one sheet and attach to back of other sheet at corner, one corner at a time.)

For the "ornaments"

- *1 piece gift wrap, small or indefinite print with minimal white, about 12"x20", or enough for 28/ 2 ¼" "ornament" shapes + 7/ 3x5 or 4x6 unlined index cards, or 2 sheets 8 ½ x 11 card stock (for stiffening)

OR TO SAVE TIME:

- * 1 sheet 14"x14" double-sided scrapbook paper, or 2 sheets 8 ½ x 11 colored card stock, or 1 sheet 9x12 colored heavy construction paper

- *For the star - Yellow or gold construction paper or card stock OR yellow or gold crayon, colored pencil, or felt marker OR gold or silver glitter and glue suitable for the glitter (such as Elmer's)

- *For the tree trunk – Brown construction paper or brown paper bag OR brown crayon, colored pencil, or felt marker

- *Curling ribbon in a complementary color (about 6 yards + some for curling at neck of hanger, if desired)

- *28 hole reinforcements

- *Transparent tape

- *Glue stick

- *Scissors

- *Hole punch

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut out the three white sections for the tree, cutting just inside the cutting line so that it won't show.
To assemble the tree, lightly glue the tabs and lap tabs under the other pieces.
2. Glue two hole reinforcements back-to-back and fold in half. Open doubled reinforcement and place bottom of it at one of the dots on the tree. Use about an inch of transparent tape to tape top half of reinforcement flat onto the tree. Do the same for all the other dots. (You will use these to tie the "balls" onto the tree.)

IF STEPS 3 THROUGH 8 SOUND A LITTLE LONG AND TEDIOUS, DO THEM WHILE YOU WATCH YOUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS MOVIE OR LISTEN TO YOUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS MUSIC. BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, YOU'LL BE DONE.

**Tip: For easier tracing of "ornaments" shapes, cut a pattern from card stock or an index card. Or you may use something like the top of a standard pop can or bottom of a standard yogurt container that is the same size as the pattern. For easier cutting, cut into rough squares first, then cut "ornament" shapes out of individual squares.*

#3 for "ornaments" made from gift wrap:

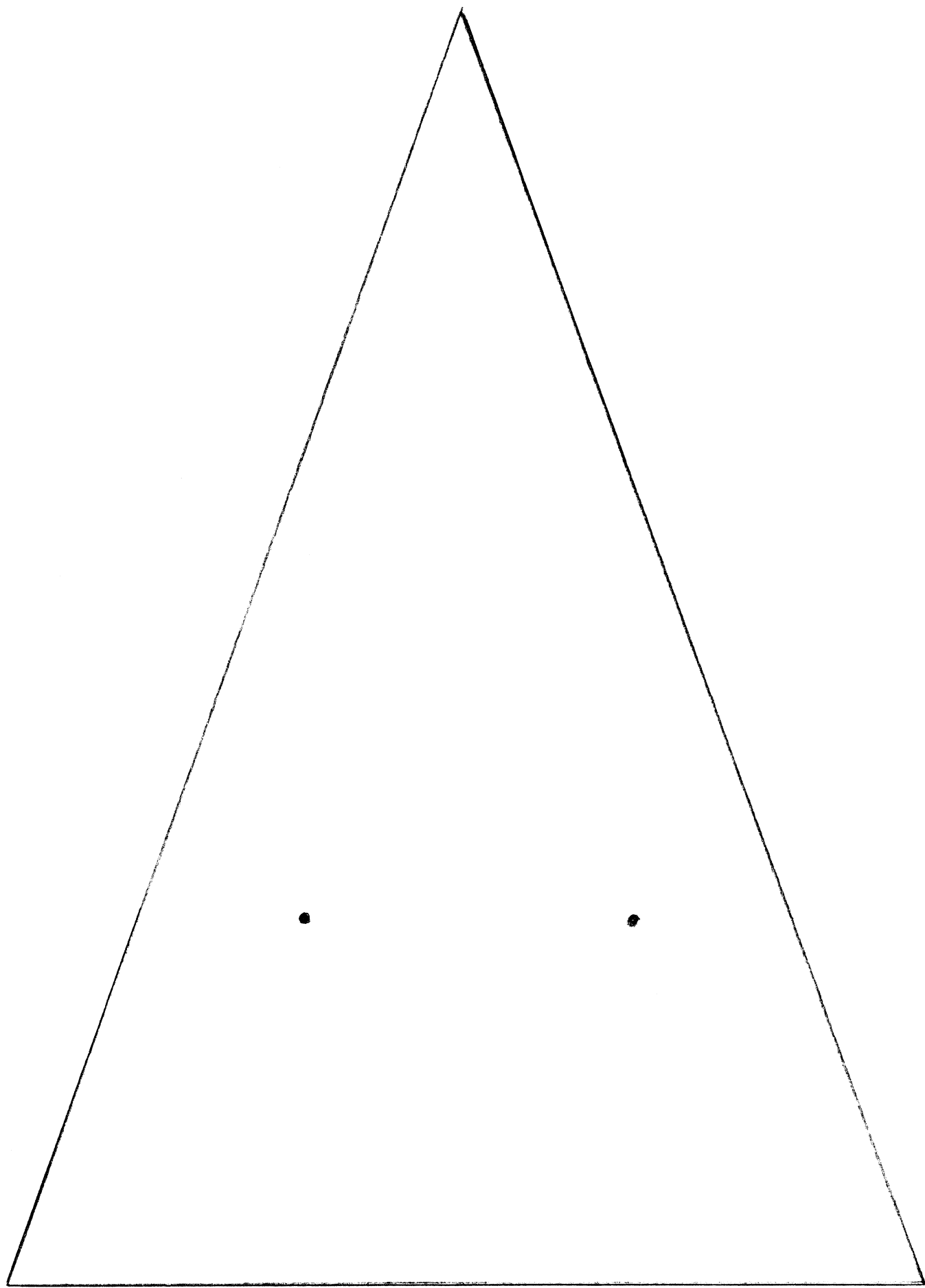
- 3a. Trace 28 "ornament" shapes onto the back side of the gift wrap designated for them. Then cut out the traced "ornament" shapes.
- 3b. Trace and cut 14 "ornament" shapes, using index cards or card stock.

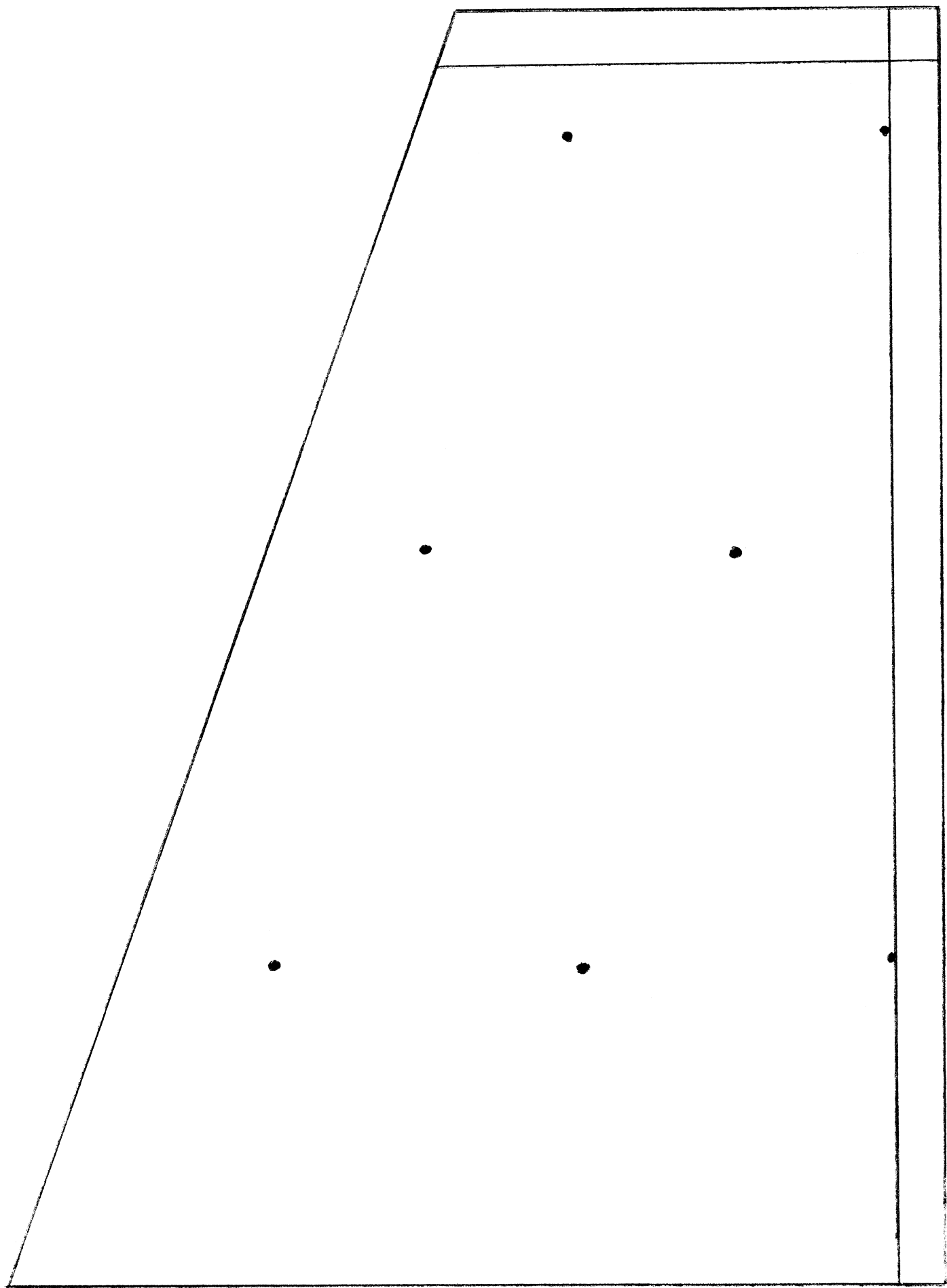
- 3c. Lightly glue the outer edge of one of the index card or card stock "ornament" shapes and stick on a gift wrap "ornament" shape. Then glue the outer edge of the other side of the index card or card stock "ornament" shape and (with print going same direction as on other side, if there is a noticeable direction) stick on another gift wrap "ornament" shape. Do the same with all the other "ornaments".
- #3 for time-saving method using scrapbook paper, card stock, or heavy construction paper for "ornaments":
3. Trace "ornaments" onto scrapbook paper, card stock, or heavy construction paper. Then cut them out.
 4. Punch a hole $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge of the "ornament" (top edge if design has a direction).
 5. Cut out date strips and Scripture strips, leaving the date indicator tabs on the Scripture strips until ready to glue.
 6. Glue a date strip on one side of each "ornament", with punched hole at top.
 7. Find Scripture tab corresponding to date on one of the "ornaments", cut off date indicator tab, and glue Scripture on other side of "ornament", with punched hole at top. Do the same for all the "ornaments".
 8. Cut 14 ribbon strips, each 14" long. Leaving ends of ribbon equal length, tie a ribbon onto each "ornament" with a knot (no bow yet), with no slack in between the knot and the top of the "ornament".
 9. Tie an "ornament" onto each reinforcement with a bow, with date side showing. **DO NOT TIE A KNOT THIS TIME. YOU WILL NEED TO RETIE EACH ONE WITH THE SCRIPTURE FACING UP AS EACH DAY COMES.** (Put in date order, beginning with top row, going left to right.)
 10. Cut out the star pattern. Trace it onto gold or yellow construction paper or card stock and cut out, OR use the star pattern and color it with a gold or yellow crayon, colored pencil, or felt marker, or cover with glue, suitable for glitter, and some gold or silver glitter.
 11. Cut out the trunk pattern. Trace it onto brown construction paper or brown paper bag and cut out OR use the trunk pattern and color it with a brown crayon, colored pencil, or felt marker.
 12. Cut out the "Coming of Jesus" title strip.
 13. Place background gift wrap on a table, front side down. Fold over 2" on bottom toward the back side. Tape folded paper to the back side. Place hanger on back of gift wrap with hook at the top (making sure top of print is at top, where hanger is, if there is a direction to the print). Place hanger at top so that bottom of neck is right at the top of the paper. Fold gift wrap over top of hanger, so that it folds diagonally over both sides of hanger. Make sure it is hanging square. Then tape the gift wrap securely in place.
 14. Lay the hanger and gift wrap background with front side up. Lay down the tree, trunk, and star to judge placement. Lay the "Coming of Jesus" title strip just above the bar of the hanger. You may want to make a tiny pencil dot at each corner of the tree and each corner of the "Coming of Jesus" label to guide you in gluing it down. Use glue stick generously around edges of bottom corners of tree and glue bottom of tree in place. Smooth any ripples. Generously glue top corner of tree and glue top in place. Then put glue around edges of star and trunk and glue them in place. Last, lightly glue the edges around the corners of the "Coming of Jesus" title strip and glue it in place. Smooth any ripples. Erase any noticeable dots. (If desired, tie a little curled ribbon around neck of hanger, being careful not to cover part of the "Coming of Jesus" title.)

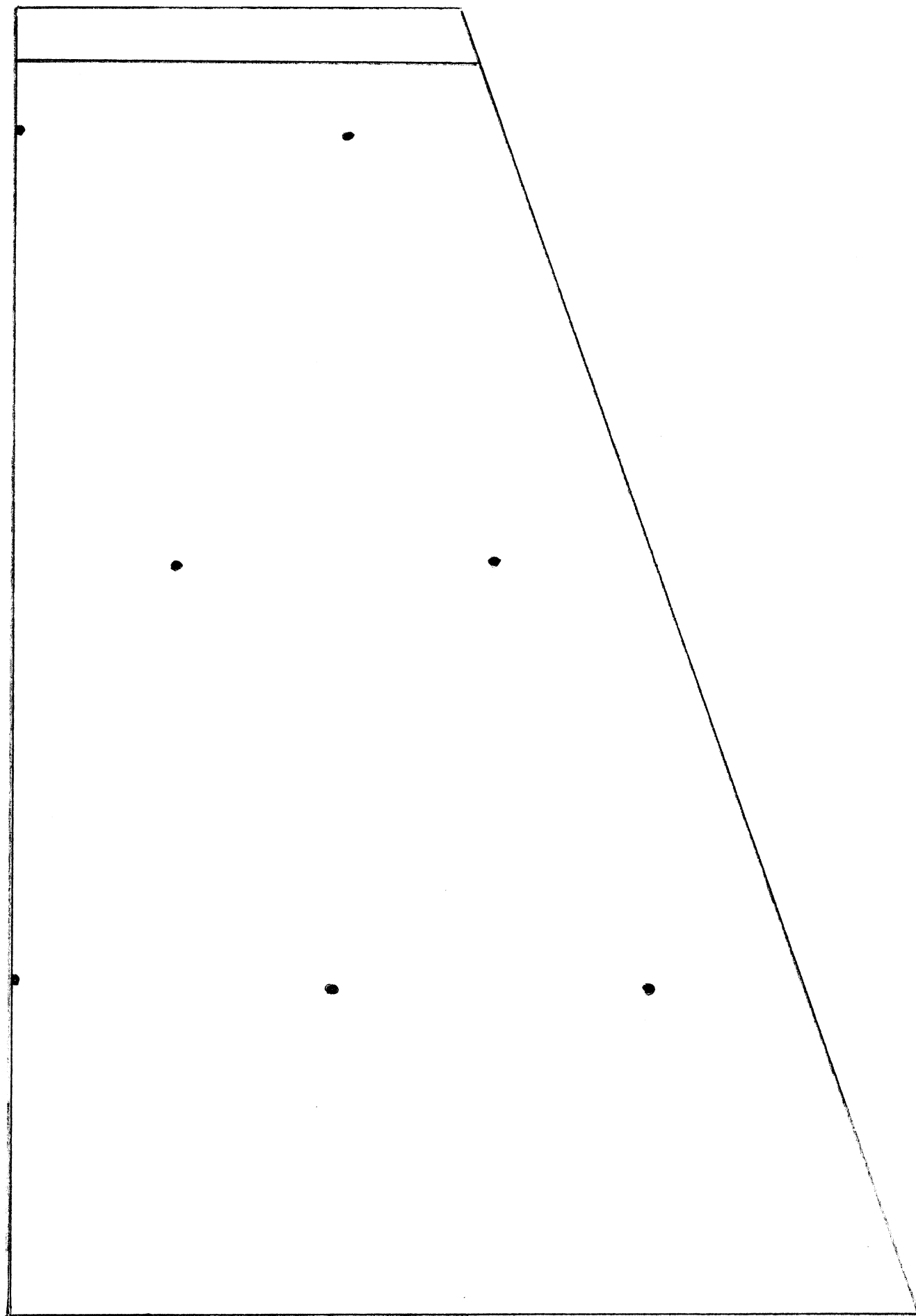
Hang your Advent Calendar on the wall. Each morning, beginning on Dec. 12, untie one ornament and retie it with the Scripture side facing the front. Then read the Scripture for that day. Some are short and some longer, so allow a few minutes in your schedule.

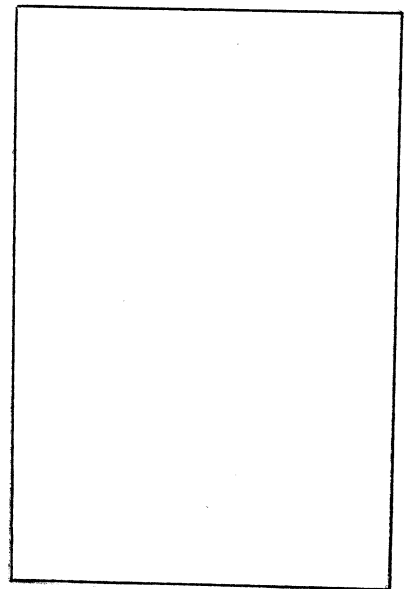
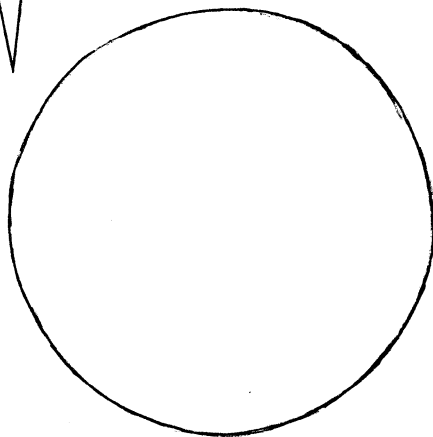
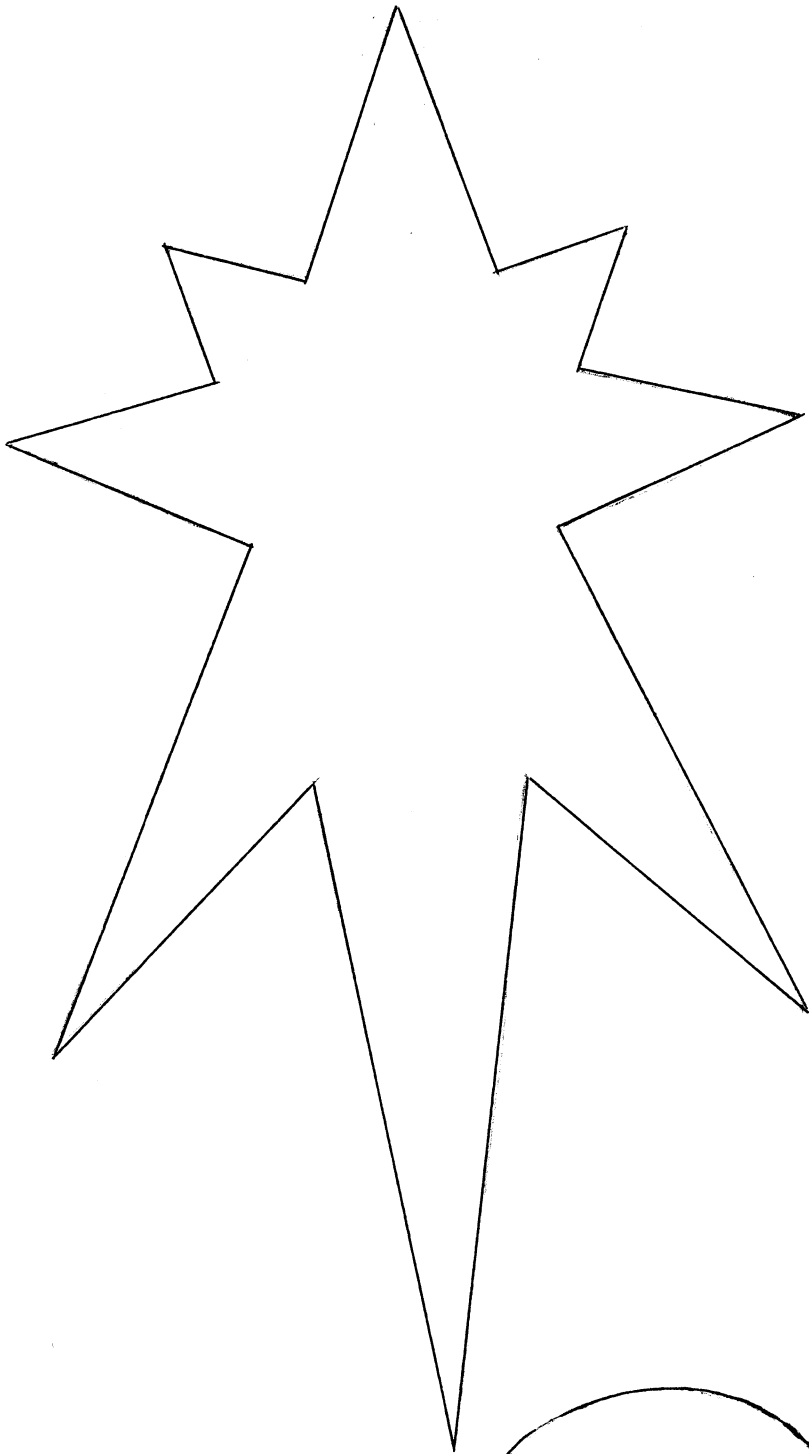
When the Christmas season is over, you may hang it in a closet if you wish to save it for a future Christmas.

May your Advent Calendar make your Christmas more meaningful by making you more aware of the wonderful gift of Jesus.









The Coming of Jesus

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

DEC. 12	DEC. 13	DEC. 14
DEC. 15	DEC. 16	DEC. 17
DEC. 18	DEC. 19	DEC. 20
DEC. 21	DEC. 22	DEC. 23
DEC. 24	DEC. 25	

12 *Genesis 1:1-5*

13 *John 1:1-4*

14 *Psalms 27:1*

15 *Luke 1:30-31, 35*
Luke 2:4-7

16 *Luke 2:8-20*

17 *Luke 2:28-32*

18 *Matthew 2:1-2, 9-10*

19 *John 1:6-10, 23, 29*

20 *John 1:32-34*

21 *Matthew 4:13-16*

22 *John 8:12*

23 *II Corinthians 4:4-6*

24 *I Peter 2:9-10*

25 *Revelation 21:1, 23*