Create Your Own Advent Basket

Prepare your heart and home for Christmas

Gather a few meaningful supplies in one place for Scripture, prayer, and simple seasonal activities. Create a basket for yourself, your marriage, or your family.

1. Choose your basket

Use a basket, decorative bin, wooden crate, or tray you already own. Choose something easy to carry with room for your Bible and a few supplies. Add a tea towel, ribbon, or a little artificial greenery for a Christmas touch.

2. Start with your faith essentials

Bible: Keep Scripture at the center of your Advent time.

Advent devotional or study: Choose one suited to those participating.

Printed guide: Add your *Making Room for Jesus* printable or another reading plan.

Journal and pens: Record prayers, reflections, and answered prayers. A small pouch keeps pens and highlighters together.

Scripture cards: Read one together or display a verse nearby.

3. Make room for gratitude and prayer

Add a small jar or envelope and slips of paper. Write down blessings, prayer requests, or ways you have seen God at work. Read some of your gratitude slips on Christmas Day.

Try these prompts
Today, I am thankful for...
Someone I want to pray for is...
This Scripture reminds me...
One way I can show Jesus' love today is...

Simple Moments, Meaningful Memories

Fill your basket with possibilities

4. Add a few activity supplies

ACTIVITY	WHAT TO ADD
Cocoa and a movie	Cocoa packets and a family Christmas movie list
Baking and sharing	Cookie cutters, a recipe card, and gift tags
Encouraging someone	Christmas cards, envelopes, and stamps
Christmas lights outing	A printed list of places to visit
Christmas worship	A song list or playlist QR code
Crafting together	A small craft kit or basic supplies
Serving others	A card with a specific act of kindness

Keep large supplies elsewhere. A recipe card or activity reminder can represent what you plan to do.

5. Keep it easy to use

Place books at the back and smaller items in front. Use pouches or envelopes to organize supplies. Keep daily essentials in place and change activity items weekly. Optional dividers labeled **Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love** can connect to your Advent guide.

6. Choose a simple daily rhythm

Set your basket somewhere visible. Aim for about 10-15 minutes: **read** Scripture, **reflect** on one thought, **pray**, then **respond** with a journal entry, gratitude slip, or activity. Save longer activities for days with more time. Adjust as needed if you miss a day.

Your starter checklist

[ ] Basket or container

[ ] Advent study or reading plan

[ ] Journal and pen

[ ] First activity supplies

[ ] Bible

[ ] Printed Advent guide

[ ] Gratitude jar and paper slips

[ ] Optional ribbon or greenery

Begin with what you have. A simple basket can support meaningful moments of worship, connection, and anticipation as you celebrate Jesus' birth.