

The **WAY** in the **Manger**



A Sticker Book Journey to Jesus

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This small booklet of brief daily Advent prayers is based—phrase by phrase—on the beloved Christmas carol *Away in a Manger* and our Lord’s promise that “I am the Way ... and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Each day of Advent, as you pray your way through the lines of this beloved song, add a sticker to the colorful Bethlehem poster. And remember that baby Jesus was not just born in some far away place. He is born in you, each day! And his presence in your life is assurance that the **WAY** to heaven and life everlasting is open wide.

December 1.....John 14:5-6

Away in a manger

When I hear “Away in a manger,” it comes out “A WAY in a manger,” and I am reminded of Jesus’ promise, “I am the Way ... and the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through me.” God found a way to bring us back to him. And that amazing, surprising way leads through a manger—a food box in a barn!



December 2..... John 1:11

No crib for his bed



When Joseph and Mary arrived in Bethlehem, there was no room for them in the inn. It makes me sad to think of a baby without a proper place to sleep. It makes me sad to think that Jesus was born into an unwelcoming world. Dear Lord Jesus, please help me to always open my heart to be a welcome home for you.

December 3..... Matthew 17:1-8

The little Lord Jesus



O my mighty Savior, is it strange that people call you “the little Lord Jesus”? For you are not little—your glory fills heaven and earth!

If you had appeared in all your glory, could anyone have been able to look at you? Would the shepherds have been brave enough to look? Would I? Lord Jesus, you want to be seen, to be held, to be accepted like the precious gift you are.

December 4..... Genesis 2:2

Laid down his sweet head

In the beginning, when God the Father had finished his wonderful act of creation, he rested. How fitting, Lord Jesus, that you rested—wrapped warm and snug—in your manger bed. After all, your wonderful act of saving me and all of creation was just beginning!



December 5.....Psalm 8:3-4

The stars in the bright sky



When I look up into the night sky and try to count the stars (as you once told old Abraham to do) I sometimes feel very small. But you don't see me that way, Lord Jesus. You, who sits on an everlasting heavenly throne, look at me and see something big, something important, someone special enough to come down from heaven to meet, to know, to save. Thank you, Jesus, for seeing me as a star!

December 6.....Genesis 1:14-19

Looked down where he lay



While all the world is looking up at the stars, Lord Jesus Christ, the stars are looking down ... at you! As brilliant as they are—and of all the things they might look down to behold—the stars are looking at the tiny light in the manger. Do the stars know that the manger light is the same Light that split the darkness of creation? The same Light that hung each star in its place?

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Throughout Advent, families can sing the words of the beloved Christmas song “Away in a Manger” as they add stickers to the poster map to Bethlehem. There, children will discover the Little Lord Jesus, asleep in his hay-filled bed.

But this child is not merely a sleepy baby away in a far off barn. He is the Way! The Way to forgiveness, the Way to paradise, the Way to life everlasting and peace with God forevermore.

