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	Dec. 23	Matthew 1:18-25	Angel
Dec. 25 Luke 2:6-21 Manger	Dec. 24	Luke 2:1-5	Sandals, donkey
	Dec. 25	Luke 2:6-21	Manger

## Jesse Tree

The Jesse Tree has long been used as a way to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. It is based in Isaiah 11:1 – "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." For each day from December 1<sup>st</sup> through Christmas day there is an appointed reading and an accompanying symbol or ornament to be hung on a tree, traditionally made of a bare branch. These readings give us the stories of Jesus' ancestors and the events leading up to his birth. On the reverse, you will find the readings for each day, as well as the accompanying symbol. Additional resources, including printable ornaments can be found online. One helpful site is <u>https://www.faithward.org/jesse-tree/</u>.

For those wishing to participate with young children, <u>The Jesus Storybook Bible</u> has a version that, while varying slightly, holds true to the purpose of the Jesse Tree. Sally Lloyd-Jones offers free printables and other activities at <u>www.sallylloyd-jones.com/blog/</u>.

For adults wishing to go deeper or looking for a more sophisticated ornament, check out <u>The Greatest Gift</u> by Ann Voskamp.

If you're looking for an easy to use pre-made tree and ornament set, Amazon has many options, including this magnetic set <u>https://a.co/bJ9rPUW</u>.

