

# The Pass-the-Plate Devos

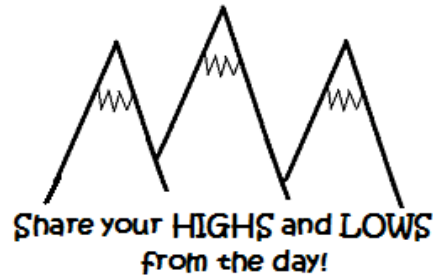
***"Families passing on the faith as they pass their plates at the Family Table during the first week of Advent"***

## BIBLE FOCUS: Mark 13:24-37

"But in those days, following that distress,  
'the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light;  
the stars will fall from the sky,  
and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'

"At that time men will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens. "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!' "

The Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD!**



If you knew someone was going to break into your house tonight, what would you do to get



1. What is said to happen "in those days?"
2. How will men see the Son of Man coming? What will the Son of Man send his angels to do?
3. What lesson can you learn from the fig tree?
4. Heaven and earth may pass away, but what will never pass away?
5. No one knows when the Son is coming – only the Father. Therefore, we must be on guard and be alert. What do we not want the "owner of the house" – or the Son of Man to find us doing?

## Family Challenge



This Advent Season, we excitedly wait for our Lord Jesus to come to us as a little baby. As a family, make an Advent chain to count down the days until Jesus comes. You should cut 26 strips of paper, and write one letter of the alphabet (A-Z) on each strip. Then, write a Christmas word for each letter... "A" might be for angels or advent. Once you finish, loop all of the strips together to form a chain. Each day, take a loop off the chain at a meal together and give thanks for that Christmas word. Be sure to take a loop off the Advent chain for today.