

Advent Paper Chain



This Advent Paper Chain kit will help you anticipate Jesus's birth on Christmas Day! Your first step is to put together your paper chain. Color each day's icon if you like, and then cut apart each strip. Fold the first strip of paper into a ring and either tape or staple the ends together. Take the next strip of paper and loop it through the first paper ring before you fold it and tape or staple its ends together. Repeat the process with all of your strips until your paper chain is complete.

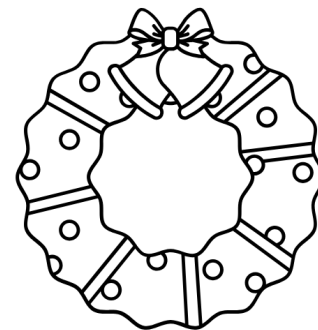
On December 1, tear the December 1 paper off of your paper chain. Look up the scripture reference and read it together. Then ask the question or questions and discuss them together as a family. If you're on your own, journal your answers or text your answers to a trusted friend.


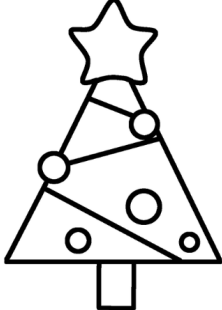
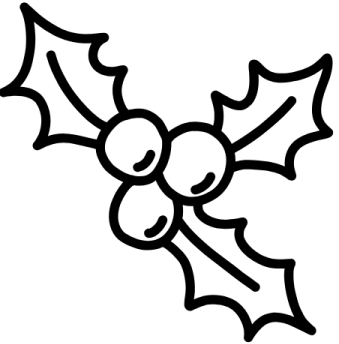

If you have a Christmas scented candle or an advent wreath of candles, you might light a candle before you read. You could play soft instrumental music in the background if that helps you focus. It's helpful to set a specific time of day to meet and read together. If you miss a day, don't stress! Just catch up when you can. Our prayer is that this activity helps you and your family focus on the true meaning of Christmas this Advent season.


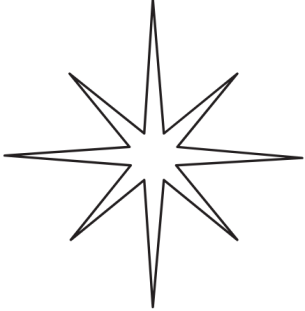
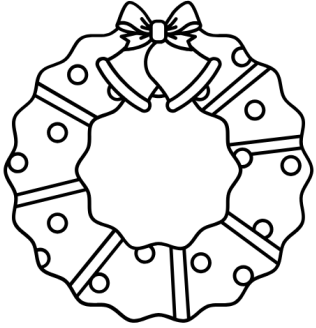

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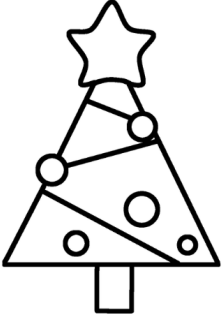
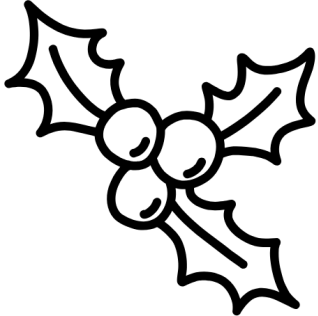

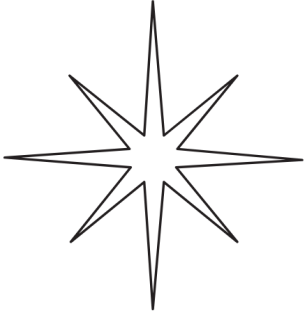
Isaiah 9:2-7

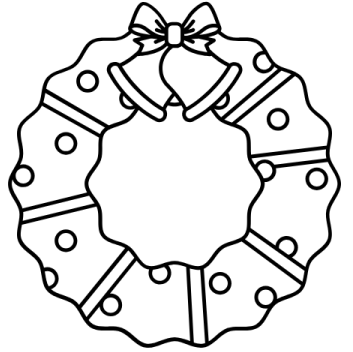

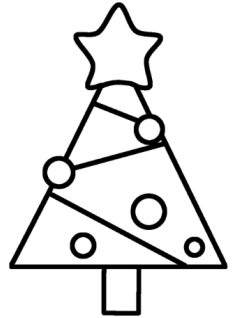
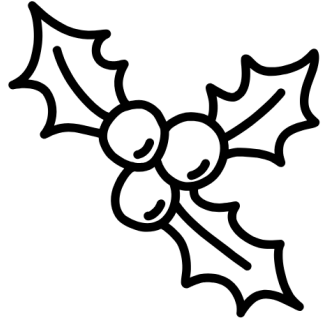
What does it feel like to be in the dark? How does it feel when you turn the light on?



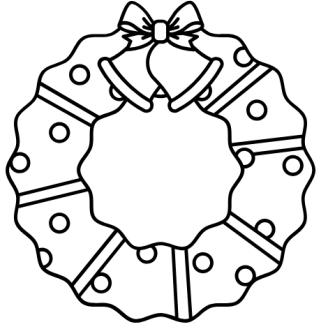



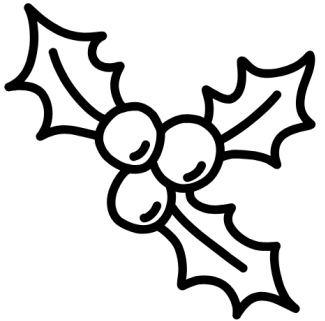
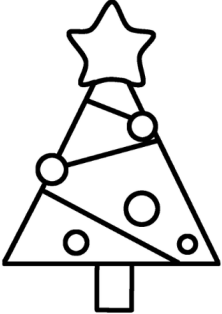
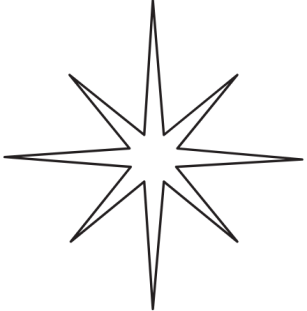
<p>Dec 2</p>	<p>Luke 1:26-38</p> <p>God had a plan for Mary's life to bring Jesus into the world. What talents and interests has God given you that are part of his plan for your life?</p>	
<p>Dec 3</p>	<p>Psalms 42</p> <p>This is a prayer about waiting. Are you good at waiting? Is there anything you are waiting for? Have you had a conversation with God about it?</p>	
<p>Dec 4</p>	<p>Romans 8:18-27</p> <p>In what ways has suffering or hardship deepened your understanding of God's promises? Did you know that the Holy Spirit is praying for you when you are having a hard time? How does knowing that make you feel?</p>	
<p>Dec 5</p>	<p>Revelation 22:1-7</p> <p>How has God been good to you in the past? How does the promise of Christ's return shape the way you live today?</p>	

<p>Dec 6</p>	<p>Luke 1:46-55</p> <p>Mary sang a prayer-song of thanksgiving to God. Write your own prayer-song of thanksgiving to God. What does your prayer-song sound like?</p>	
<p>Dec 7</p>	<p>Micah 5:2-5a</p> <p>This scripture says Jesus is our peace. How have you experienced the peace of Jesus in your life?</p>	
<p>Dec 8</p>	<p>Philippians 4:4-9</p> <p>Is there any anxiety that you need to bring to God in prayer? What helps you fix your mind on things that are true, noble, and lovely?</p>	
<p>Dec 9</p>	<p>Matthew 6:25-34</p> <p>What would it look like for you to not worry about tomorrow? How does seeking God's kingdom help you not to worry?</p>	

<p>Dec 10</p>	<p>Ephesians 4:1-6 Do you keep the peace in your relationships? If not, how could you work towards that?</p>	
<p>Dec 11</p>	<p>Luke 1:5-7, 11-22 What does it feel like for you when it seems like your prayers go unanswered? How could God be answering your prayer in a way you do not expect?</p>	
<p>Dec 12</p>	<p>Luke 1:62-79 Have you been through a long season of waiting that ended in an answer? How did God redeem your waiting? Are you still in a season of waiting? How are you praying it ends?</p>	
<p>Dec 13</p>	<p>Psalms 16 What other things do you turn to for joy instead of God? How can you refocus on finding joy in God this week?</p>	

Dec 14	Luke 1:39-45 Who are your close friends? How can you bless them and encourage them?	
Dec 15	Isaiah 35 Have you ever experienced something you thought was bad but then it turned into something good? What do you remember about the experience?	
Dec 16	Hebrews 12:1-3 What would it look like for you to keep your eyes fixed on Jesus rather than distractions?	
Dec 17	Psalms 51:16-17 What brings God joy? What do you think you do that makes Him smile?	

<p>Dec 18</p>	<p>Luke 2:8-16 Has God's presence ever been revealed to you? How did you respond?</p>	
<p>Dec 19</p>	<p>Isaiah 53 How does reading through the prophecy of Jesus affirm that God keeps his promises?</p>	
<p>Dec 20</p>	<p>John 15:9-17 How do you understand the connection between obedience and remaining in God's love?</p>	
<p>Dec 21</p>	<p>Philippians 1:9-11 What does the word discernment mean? Is there anything in your life you need more discernment about?</p>	

<p>Dec 22</p>	<p>1 Corinthians 13</p> <p>Which aspect of love is hard for you (patient, kind, etc.)? How can you pray about that and ask God to help you show love even when it is hard?</p>	
<p>Dec 23</p>	<p>1 John 4:7-16</p> <p>Who is someone in your life who has shown you God's love? How did they show God's love to you? Say a prayer thanking God for putting that person in your life.</p>	
<p>Dec 24</p>	<p>Matthew 1:18-25</p> <p>Jesus's name means "The Lord is Salvation." And Emmanuel means "God with us." Do you know what your name means? Look it up! How is the meaning of Jesus's names important?</p>	
<p>Dec 25</p>	<p>Luke 2:25-35</p> <p>Merry Christmas!! Listen to your favorite version of "Joy to the World." Enjoy your Christmas day with your family and be thankful for your gifts of all kinds!</p>	