

Bible Story: Ruler from Bethlehem and Angels Visit

November 22nd, 2020

1. Read the Bible story in the Spark Story Bible on pages 194-200.
2. Answer the following questions:
 - a. What shared God's plan with the people in Bethlehem?

 - b. What did the angel tell Mary?

 - c. Why did Joseph change his mind and decide to get married to Mary?

Activity: Advent Wreath

To help us wait and to help us prepare our hearts for Christmas, we are going to make an Advent wreath to mark the time until Jesus is born!

1. Cut the middle circle out of the paper plate, and keep the edge (should look like a donut).
2. Tear small pieces of tissue paper, and glue to the edge ring of paper plate. This tissue paper represents the greenery (plants) that surround the candles on the advent wreath.
3. Roll each of the four blue pieces of paper the long way (hotdog way) into a tube shape, and either glue or tape together. These tubes represent the four candles on our advent wreathes.
4. Glue the 4 blue tubes equally spaced from each other on the paper plate ring.
5. Glue red pom poms in clusters of three on the green tissue paper wherever you'd like! There should be enough red pom poms to make three clusters of three.

In your bag, you will also find four yellow feathers and four orange feathers. Each week, tape or glue one feather of each color in your blue tube to represent the lighting of each candle.

Each one of these candles has a meaning.

- **The first candle, which we light on the first Sunday of Advent, is the candle of hope.**
- **The second candle is the candle of peace.**
- **The third candle is the candle of joy.**
- **The fourth candle is the candle of love.**

Now you know how your Advent wreath works! Place the flames on the candles and read the Bible text as the weeks arrive.

Let's pray: Dear Jesus, We are really excited about the fact that Christmas is coming. Please shine in our hearts. You fill us with God's love and joy so that we can have hope. Please shine in our hearts. As the light on our Advent wreaths grows brighter, remind us that you want to shine in our hearts. Amen

Advent Helps Us Wait

1st Week CANDLE: “CANDLE OF HOPE”—Sunday, November 29th

God has made promises to us, and we know God always keeps his promises. That’s why we have hope. Our hope comes from God. Reading Romans 15:12-13.

2nd Week CANDLE: “CANDLE OF PEACE”—Sunday, December 6th

We must prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus by repenting of our sins. Prepare the way of the Lord! Read Luke 3:4-6

3rd Week CANDLE: “CANDLE OF JOY”—Sunday, December 13th

The angels sang a message of joy. The salvation Jesus brings gives joy to all people. Read Luke 2:7-15

4th Week CANDLE: “CANDLE OF LOVE”—Sunday, December 20th

God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! Christmas is all about the love of God. Read John 3:16-17.



Your advent wreath should look similar to this!