

WEEK 3: JOY

**** If your family is doing the weekly Advent candle lighting, go ahead and light 3 candles, symbolizing the Hope and Peace Candles from previous weeks, and the Joy Candle for this week.**

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:8-20

(* If reading to children, trying reading the NIV version of this story from the Bible App for better understanding!)

REFLECTIONS:

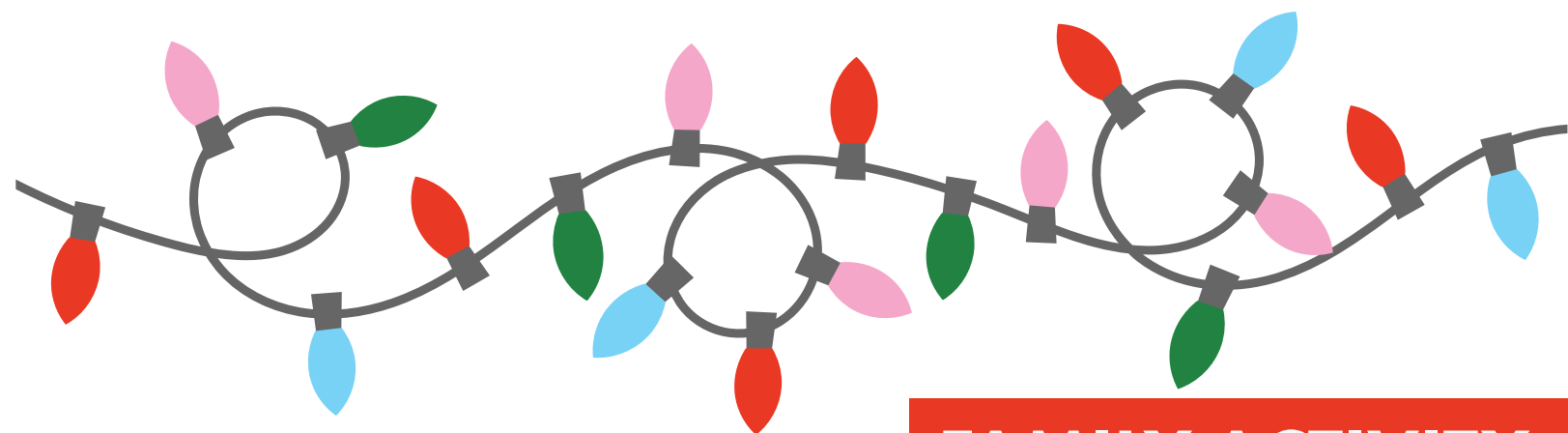
Luke 2:10-11 - "But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.'"

The 3rd week of Advent is Joy. This verse above is from the story of Jesus' birth. The angels appeared to the shepherds in the fields nearby to announce that a baby had been born in a manger. The angels describe Jesus' birth as "good news of great joy because he came to be our Savior!" The Bible tells us that right after they announced the news to the shepherds, thousands of angels appeared and sang "Glory to God!" because Jesus had been born.

Joy means happy, delight, or rejoice. What are some things that bring us joy at Christmas? (family, gifts, parties, etc.)

Why did the angels say that the news of Jesus' birth is great joy? (Because He came to be the Savior of all people.)

The Christmas carol Joy to the World includes the line, "let every heart prepare him [Jesus] room." Have you prepared room in your heart for Jesus by trusting in Him as your Savior? Have we prepared room in our Christmas activities for Him?



FAMILY ACTIVITY

Christmas Karaoke

SUPPLIES NEEDED: TV, iPad, computer, or phone connected to Internet

WHAT TO DO:

Scan the QR code at the beginning of this Guide to play one of the Advent playlists.

Play a song - or a few - and sing together as a family! Feel free to clap, raise your hands, and even dance! Or if your family doesn't want to sing, just listen and enjoy the music!

Make this time special for your family - if someone in your home plays the piano, guitar, or other instrument, bring that out and sing a Christmas carol together you all know!

Pray Together

Talk about your upcoming week, and any specific prayer requests that each of you have. Pray together (either one person can pray, or each family member) for the requests. Pray for God to help you each find joy this week not just in what's happening around you, but in Him. Pray that you each would share that joy with someone this week.



Dec 15 ♥ The Young Hero & The Horrible Giant

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Samuel 17:37-51

JESUS STORYBOOK BIBLE: pg. 122-129

BIBLE APP FOR KIDS: "Stones, Slings, and Giant Things" (helmet with slingshot icon)

Reflections:

- ♦♦♦ David fought Goliath, who was a big _____. What did David use to fight him?
- ♦♦♦ Did David believe he could beat Goliath by himself? Who did David need to help him? What will save you - strength, or God?
- ♦♦♦ Just like God sent David to save the people from Goliath, God sends Jesus to save us. David had true courage because He knew that God saves us. If you want true courage, the courage to do the right thing even when you are scared, then you need to know it is not strength that save you, but Jesus that saves you.