

Together @ Home

Lectionary Edition
Sunday 6th December
Second Sunday of Advent



Here are some activities you could do together as a family. Begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.

Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, the story of John the Baptist preparing the way for Jesus.

You can find it in your Bible in:

Psalm 85:1-2,8-13

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your family.

The other passages we might be thinking about at church this week are:

Isaiah 40.1-11

Mark 1:1-8

2 Peter 3.8-15a

A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Our world is not always a peaceful place. But we thank you for the ways You work to bring about peace here on earth--in our country and communities, as well as in our own hearts and lives--through Jesus, our Prince of Peace.

Help us to choose to live our lives Your way instead of our own so we might follow Jesus' example and be Your peacemakers in our homes, community, and world.

Amen.

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

What does God promise to his people in verse 8 of our scripture reading (Psalm 85)?

Psalm 85, verse 8 says that God "promises peace to his people, his faithful servants."

According to the Psalm, why might God promise peace to his people?

To show people God's greatness. (So "that his glory may dwell in our land." v.9)

Some questions to answer as a family

The Old Testament of our Bible is filled with prophecies--promises from God about the future--that were fulfilled (came true) in Jesus. In Isaiah 9:6 it says, "To us a child is born, to us a Son is given...and he will be called...Prince of Peace."

What do you think "Prince of Peace" means? How does Jesus fulfill this prophecy? (Read John 14:27 and Romans 5:1b)

The Bible says that we have peace with God through Jesus. Jesus gives peace with God, peace with others, and peace of mind without fear during hard times to all who choose to believe in and follow Him.

A PRAYER OF PEACE



As we light the second Advent candle, we remember the peace of God brought to us through the birth of Jesus.

We thank You for reminding us that Your peace is for everyone who puts their faith in You.

Help us to trust You and to live Your way every day so that we might not only understand Your peace, but also share it with others. Amen.



A verse to remember

John 14:27

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Before his death, Jesus shared these words with his disciples. To learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate a copy and put it up somewhere you can see it during the week.

Active Advent

We can use this advent season to prepare our own hearts and lives before God. Why not take on these challenges during the second week of Advent? You could do one each day or do them all at once.

Dec 6th

Draw a picture of yourself on a piece of paper, pray and ask God to help you draw closer to Him this week.

Dec 7th

Add to the picture to show you using a skill or talent that God has given you. How could you use that skill to serve and worship God today?

Dec 8th

Draw a heart on your picture, pray and ask God to give you a heart more like His, full of love for the world.

Dec 9th

Add a house to your picture, what ways can you think of that you could love and serve others in your household?

Dec 10th

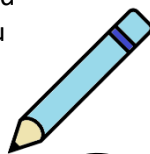
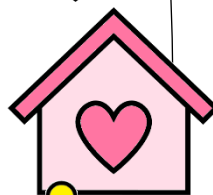
Who are the people you can share God's love with this week? Add them to your picture.

Dec 11th

Write or draw a message to God today, spend some time saying sorry for any mistakes you know you have made this week.

Dec 12th

Spend some time waiting on and listening to God today. Ask God if there are any areas in your life where you could serve Him better or be more obedient.



Family Activity 1

Make a Crown



You will need...

Large sheets of sturdy paper, magazines, assorted craft items (glitter, stickers, markers, etc.) scissors, tape.

In the prophecy in Isaiah 9:6, we read about a special child that would be born. This child was Jesus--whose birthday we will celebrate on Christmas. Jesus came to give us peace with God and peace in our hearts. For this activity each person will make a crown as a reminder that Jesus is the Prince of Peace who came to earth to give peace to all people.

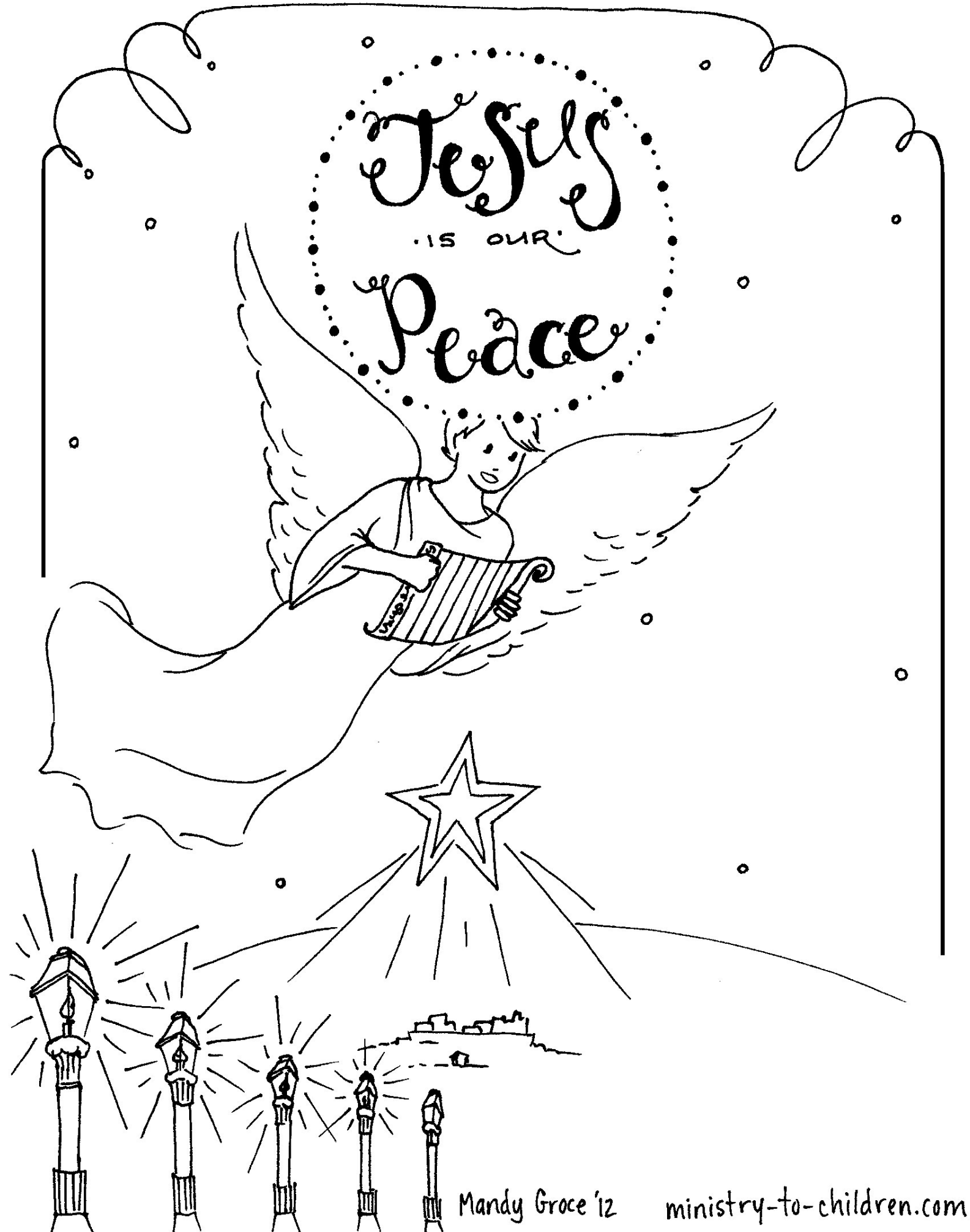
Directions:

1. Cut a crown shape out of the sturdy paper.
2. On the crown write: Jesus is the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6)
3. Draw people or add pictures of people from magazines to the crown to represent all of the many different people to whom Jesus gives peace.
4. Add other decorations (glitter, stickers, etc.) as desired.
5. Glue or tape the ends of the crown together.

Family Activity 2

Complete "The Daily Way" together as a family.

Coloring Page



The Daily Way

KINGDOM PRAYER
This week, I prayed for

(friend or family member) _____ (church leader) _____
and _____
(child from another nation) _____ (someone on your mind) _____

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE Isaiah 9:6

For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given,
and the government shall be on His shoulders.
And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

When you can say
this from memory,
fill in the bird.

Day 2

LET'S WORSHIP!

We worship the God of peace. God
promised Isaiah that He would send
His Son as the Prince of Peace.
When we recognize that Jesus
is God's promised Son
—that's worship!

Read Isaiah 9:6.

The "son" in Isaiah's prophecy is
(SUJES) J _____. "The
government shall be on His
shoulders" means Jesus will be
[] governor of a state.
[] king of the world.

Day 1

Read Isaiah 9:2-5.

In the Bible, darkness
sometimes stands for life
without God; light stands for
God. Isaiah's prophecy spoke
of a (TREGA) G _____.
(GLTIH) L _____.

THIS WEEK

To create a family Advent wreath,
make a wreath of greenery. Place four
candles on the inner rim. Gather your
family to light the first candle and
read Isaiah 9:2-7.

Day 5

Read Isaiah 9:7.

Zeal is energy. The zeal
of the (DRLO) L _____.
(YMHALITG) A _____. GH _____.
will accomplish it. That means He
will make (LAL) A ____ of this
prophecy come true.

Day 4

Read Isaiah 9:7.

We think about God in many
different ways. My favorite way
to think about Jesus is
[] Wonderful Counselor.
[] Mighty God.
[] Everlasting Father.
[] Prince of Peace.

Day 3

Read Isaiah 9:6.

Jesus will be called (LFDOUNENW)
W _____. F _____. Counselor,
(YMHGIT) M _____. T _____. God,
Everlasting (REHFTA) F _____. R _____.
Prince of (ECAPE) P _____.

What is
a prophecy?

It is a prediction of
a future event that
comes from God.
Isaiah 9:2-7 is a
prophecy spoken by
the prophet, Isaiah.

ISAIAH'S PROPHECY: THE PRINCE OF PEACE Isaiah 9:2-7

God gave Isaiah a prophecy that
would begin to come true at the
birth of Jesus. Isaiah said, "The
people walking in darkness have seen
a great light. For to us a child is
born, to us a Son is given, and
the government shall be on His
shoulders. And He shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."
God's Kingdom will never end!

