

Kids Connect Lesson

Dec 6., 2020

Response Activities

God Prepares the Way for Jesus

Bible Passage: Judges-Luke 1:25

Remember Verse: Luke 2:11

Today in the City of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord!

Hello Families!

We hope you enjoy this bonus material, it includes discussion questions and activities designed as additional ways to connect with the story videos. The Kids Connect video message coordinates with what is being taught in our main service and breaks it down to a more age appropriate level. It is our intention with both the videos and these activities to include different elements for the various age levels of kids who will be participating in these lessons. Each week we are drawing from curriculums designed for different age levels from preschool-4th grade, to help make this happen. We understand that not every element will apply to every age, but it is our hope that each family will be able to draw out those elements they can tailor to the children in their families. It is our prayer that this lesson, the kids' videos and the live steam service will help open up conversation in your household and provide a way for your entire family to engage with God's word!

Zechariah & Elizabeth

RESPOND

PRESCHOOL

ACTIVITY: Prepare A Path

SUPPLIES

- Stone Template
- Scissors
- Optional: painter's tape

PREPARE AHEAD

Print stone templates and cut out 1–2 stones per child depending on the size of the group.

RELATE

Gather the children and have them sit in a circle. Give each child one or two stepping stone(s). **We are going to work together and lay down our stepping stones to make a special path that we will be able to walk on. Zechariah's son, John, helped make a path for Jesus, and we can too!** Invite each child, one at a time, to stand and tell how he or she can help share the Good News of Jesus. After the children share, they can lay down their stone(s) to create a path. Optional: use painter's tape to adhere the stones to the floor. Once the path has been laid, the children can carefully walk on the path. They can also hop, skip, or jump from stone to stone. Children not comfortable sharing should still be encouraged to lay down their stones.

Wonder Questions

I wonder ... What did Zechariah think about his son having such an important job?

I wonder ... How does God want me to get ready for Jesus?

I wonder ... Is there someone I can help get ready to meet Jesus?

I wonder ... How can I help prepare the way for Jesus?

ELEMENTARY

ACTIVITY: Hand-y Advent Wreath

Children will create Advent calendars to help them prepare for Christmas.

SUPPLIES

- Disposable plates (1 per child)
- Construction paper (red and green, 3 sheets per child)
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Markers
- Glue or tape

Note: For younger kids, consider preassembling the wreath described below, using a generic child-sized handprint, and have them write on it, draw on it, and decorate it.

RELATE

For hundreds of years, God prepared the hearts of His people to receive His Son, the Messiah—the Savior of the world. During Christmastime, we spend the month of December preparing our hearts to celebrate Jesus' birth. We celebrate His birth because He has done so much for us! What is one way Jesus has changed your life? What do you want to praise Him for today?

Many people use Advent calendars to help them prepare for Christmas. Typically, an Advent calendar might have an encouraging verse each day of the month leading up to Christmas. Some have candy for each day of the month. Today let's create our own Advent calendars to help us prepare our hearts for Christmas and to thank God for the ways He loves us!

Pass out the paper plates and construction paper. Instruct the kids to trace one hand on the construction paper five times (creating five handprints) and cut them out. Help the kids glue or tape their handprints around a plate to make a wreath. Then have them fold down each "finger" in half and, using a pencil or marker, number each folded finger from 1 to 25. Then have the kids open finger 25 and write or draw one thing they want to thank God for. If you want, pass out the Christmas treats and play Christmas music while the kids create!

Each morning, after you wake up, open one finger on your wreath according to how many days are left until Christmas. Every day write a way you've seen God move in your life. I hope this will help you prepare your heart for Christmas and remind you of everything God has done for you.

Just for Fun: Pathways (for younger and older kids)

SUPPLIES

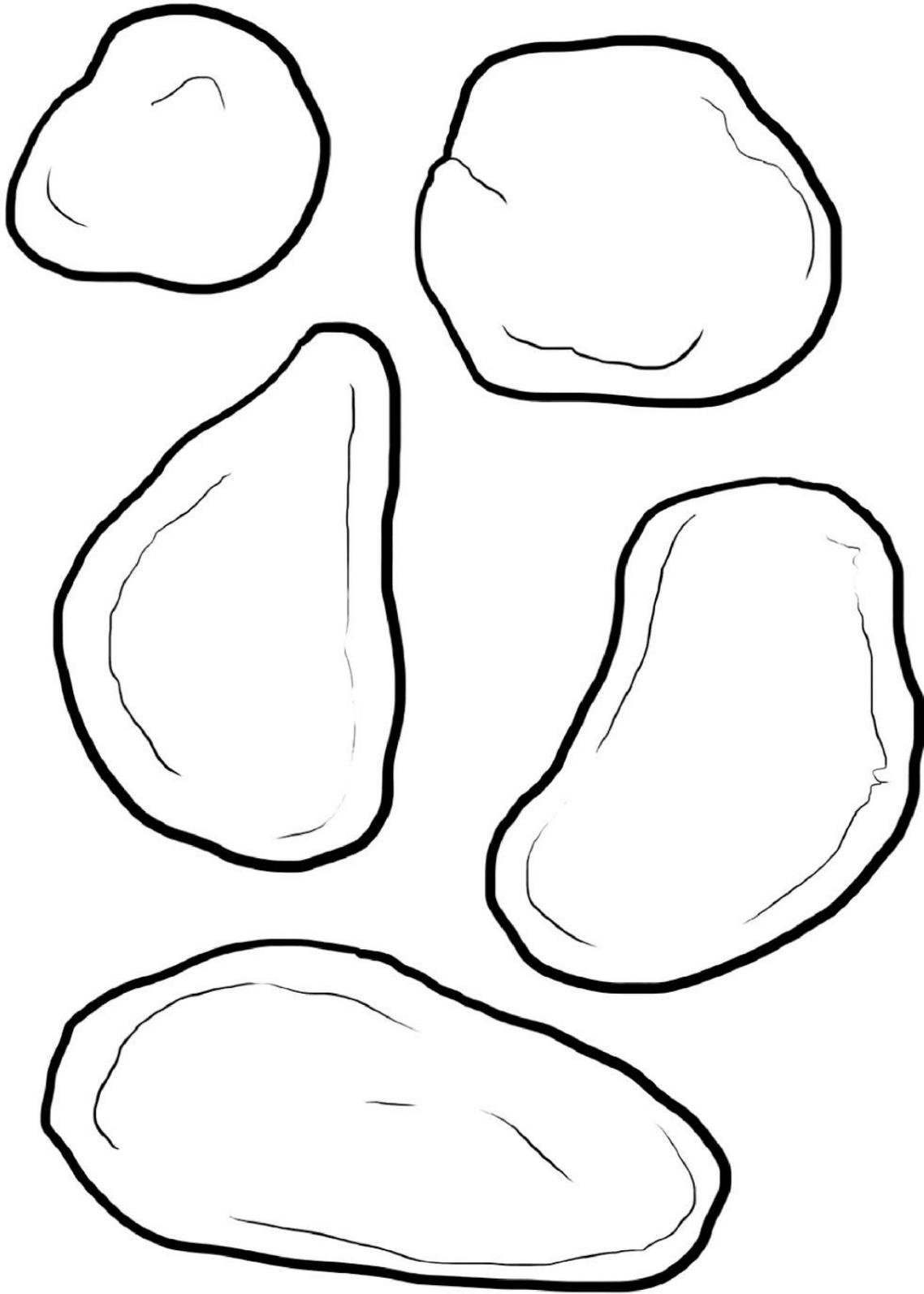
- Dominoes (1–2 sets)
- Train sets and tracks (1–2 sets)

RELATE

Invite the kids to line up dominoes in a row. Encourage them to create an interesting path with swirls, zigzags, circles, etc. Once the kids have created a path, encourage one child to push the first domino, and watch the ripple effect. Continue creating paths with the dominoes, or help the kids assemble the tracks of a train set. As the kids build, ask them about the paths they're creating and why they're creating these specific patterns.

BLESS

God has prepared a way for you to know Him. May you know the depths of His love for you. May you go out and share God's love everywhere you go.





The Birth of John the Baptist

