Christmas is celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.

Read: Psalm 33:4



Hope Potato

Play a game of "hot potato" with some friends or family. Have someone in charge of playing music while everyone else passes the "hot potato" around the circle. When the music stops, whoever is holding the potato has to tell the others something they are hopeful for!

KNOW you can have hope because God is faithful.





HOPE

Grab some paper and something to write with. Work with someone in your family to create an acrostic of the word hope by writing the letters H O P E down the paper and then writing words and phrases that start with those letters. You can write or draw things that you hope for and how to have hope when it's hard. What do you have hope in this season?

ASK God to help you see the hope you can have this season.



Right and True

In Psalm 33:4, we read about how God is always faithful. Read the verse again. Think about all the things God has done for you this week that show how what God says is right and true.

KNOW that God is always faithful.



Having Hope

Jesus came to be our Savior just as God promised. Pray and thank God for always being faithful.

"Dear God, You are always good. As I learn more about You, I can see that I can always trust You because You always keep Your word. Thank You for sending Jesus to live on earth and teach us even more about You! Amen."

THANK God for being faithful and true.



You can have hope because God is faithful.

A Devotional on Christmas

There's More! —

Draw a picture of what you hope for this Christmas season.

December 2023 Week One 2nd-3rd Grade



Christmas is celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.

DAY 2

Read Read Micah 5:2

It's finally here! The month you've waited for all year long. Yep... it's CHRISTMAS, a time for celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift. Do you like to wait? Imagine waiting for something your entire lifetime!

Micah, a prophet who spoke for God, made this promise about Jesus' birth YEARS before Jesus' arrival in the town of Bethlehem. The people who heard Micah's words would have had to wait and hope and trust God to keep the promise to send a Savior.

At just the right time, God sent Jesus. God kept the promise to send a Savior because God is faithful. That means God's words always come true. We can have HOPE because God is faithful.

Four-Panel Christmas

Fold a piece of paper in half, then fold it in half the opposite way. Open up the page to reveal four sections. In the first section, write the word HOPE in big block letters and decorate it any way you choose. Keep this page all month—you'll add to it each week!

Read Isaiah 7:14

When Isaiah spoke these words about Jesus' birth, they were a promise. It would be a long, long time before Mary would learn that she would have a son and that His name would be Immanuel.

Immanuel means God with us. Jesus would one day come to earth as a tiny, helpless baby. He would grow up just as you're growing up, and He would make a way for everyone to have a relationship with God forever.

God didn't have to send Jesus. But God sent Him so we could know God. Because of this perfect gift, we can have a relationship with God now and forever.

Nativity Scene

Draw a picture of Jesus in the manger and put it in your backpack or in your grown-up's car. Every time you look at the picture, thank God for always being with you.



AY 3

Read Isaiah 9:6

There are SO many things to love about this time of year. Snowflakes, presents, lights, even crazy Christmas sweaters. But there is something more important than all those things.

God sent Isaiah as a prophet with a special message—the promise that God would one day send Jesus, God's only Son! Since God's promise came true, we celebrate that special birth today. Because Christmas is about celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.

Isaiah uses some phrases to describe Jesus, our Savior. Draw a line from the title to its definition below:

Wonderful Adviser More powerful than

anyone or anything

Mighty God The One who

is eternal like God

Father Who The only One who

Lives Forever can fix our relationship

with God and others

Prince Who The One who can Brings Peace help and guide

God, thank you for Christmas, the day we celebrate Jesus. Thank you for sending Him

(reason you chose that title)

(Title from above)

Answer Key:

Mighty God-More powerful than anyone or anything
Prince Who Brings Peace-The One who can fix our relationship with
Prince Who Brings Peace-The One who can fix our relationship with
God and others

DAY 4

Read Isaiah 9:7

When Isaiah spoke about a coming Savior, he talked about the peace the Savior would bring. Once God made this promise, the people began watching and waiting. Some people spent their entire lives studying the words of Isaiah so they would recognize Jesus when He came to earth. And sure enough, God sent Jesus to save us!

The Bible is full of God's promises to us. Some of those promises—like the promise to send Jesus— have already been kept. And God is STILL keeping promises, like the promise to be with us and love us no matter what. We can have HOPE because God is faithful.

Hunting for Hope

Take a look at the Christmas decorations around your home or that you see next time you're at the store. Each time you spot the word "HOPE," stop and thank God for keeping the promise to send Jesus!

We can have hope because God is faithful.



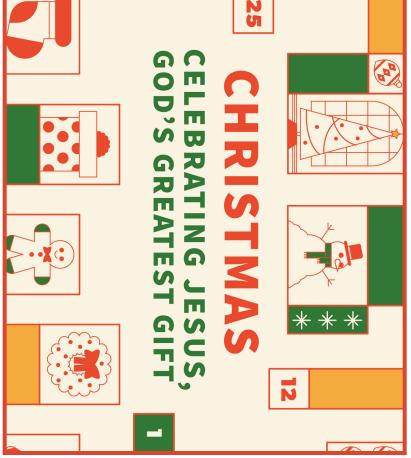
Journal

thoughts or share them with a parent. the question below and journal your Spend some time thinking about

							* ARE YOU		

December 2023

Week One 4th-5th



Day 1

1. You liked: After watching, write one thing that:

feel free to check it out again! Even if you already saw it at church, https://bit.ly/PreteenSundaysatHome

The So & So Show by going to: Watch this week's episode of

2. You learned:

3. You'd like to know:

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A Devotional on Christmas.

Day 2

Read Isaiah 9:6-7

As you read through Isaiah 9:6-7, put a star next to the descriptions of the prophesied Savior below that jump out at you—things that you have experienced as you trust Jesus and that give you hope.

- Wonderful Adviser (Counselor)
- Mighty God
- Father Who Lives Forever (Everlasting Father)
- Prince Who Brings Peace (Prince of Peace)
- Limitless authority
- Never-ending peace
- Fair and right ruler

Jot down a phrase or word next to the descriptions you starred explaining how you have experienced Jesus in that way. Hold on to this paper because you will use it tomorrow!

Day 3

Look back at the descriptions of Jesus in the list from yesterday.

Isn't it amazing to think that God shared all these things about Jesus to the prophet Isaiah long before Jesus was born—and Jesus fulfilled each and every one! That shows us just how faithful God is and how you can have hope because God is faithful. Fill in the blanks below with one of the descriptions you starred yesterday. Then take a few minutes to pray and thank God for being faithful and giving us hope!

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Dear God, thank You for sending us

Jesus, the Savior You promised. The way you fulfilled every prophesy

when You sent Jesus shows me that

I can have hope! I am especially

me You are a [or that you offer]

thankful for how You showed

You _______ llove

You. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen.

Day 4

Take the Day 1 Devo page with you and head out to interview a couple of friends or family members.

Ask each person this question: What are you hoping for? (in regards to something challenging or unknown) Then scan the paper together and find a description of Jesus that matches the problem that you've been having. (For example, maybe your friend is hoping that they can stop fighting with their brother or sister then the description of Jesus as the Prince of Peace may bring comfort to your friend!)

Find another friend or family member and repeat the same exercise. Hopefully everyone you talk to will leave the conversation feeling more hopeful because of God's faithfulness!



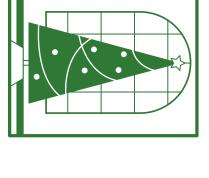
Day 5

Yesterday, you asked other people what they were hoping for.

Today, it's time to ask yourself the same question. What are you hoping for?

Maybe it's a passing grade in school or that your family won't have to move.

Or perhaps it's for everyone in your family to get along at Christmas. Write whatever it is down here: (a)



Now write down the characteristic of Jesus from Isaiah 9:6–7 that gives you hope in that situation: (b)

Place this sheet somewhere you'll see it each day—and when you do, talk to God about (a) and then thank Jesus for being (b).

Even if things don't turn out exactly as you hope, leaning into who Jesus is and His faithfulness will help you make it through the hard times!