

God chose to live as **One of Us**

Christmas Resources for Children and Families 2012

Home & Beyond:

Attached you will find a 'table topper' that you can print off for families within your church and community. This is a great way to help them take the key message home and continue the conversation in their daily lives. It is vitally important, as leaders within our churches, that we help to equip parents with suggestions, activities and language as they help children to navigate their spiritual journey.

Advent 1: What does Jesus know about me?

What is something positive that Jesus knows about you?

Share what you think first and then go around the table and get others in your family to share what they think.

Advent 2: Family Storyboard

Collect and display some family photos; make sure that you include everyone.

What are some important parts of your family's story?

If you were missing out of the family photo or story, what would your family miss out on?

Advent 3: Odd one out

Play a game of 'Kim's Game'. Get the children to collect approximately 10 items from around the house, nine that are linked in some way and one that is different. Place these items on the table and cover them with a towel or some fabric. Take the cloth off the items and give the adults one minute to look and try to remember the items. Cover the items again and ask the adults to list the items. I wonder how many they will get. Can they name the item that was different, the odd one out?

Share with your family about a time when you felt left out by others.

Remember that Jesus wants to be connected with you always (Matthew 28:20 'I am with you always, even to the very end of time').

Advent 4: You are not alone

Look up Joshua 1:9 which reminds us that God is with us wherever we go, or you may like to find some of your own promises that help to remind you that you are not alone.

You might like to write, draw and decorate this verse to hang on the fridge, add it to your blackboard, whiteboard or pin board or stick it on your bathroom mirror and be encouraged that God is with us: we are not alone.

Christmas Day: Jesus shows me what God is like

Make some playdough as a family or get some paper magiclay or plasticine for this activity.

Spend some time making something that represents something about God.

Does your object also reflect something of Jesus?

Read John 17:20–23 and pray together.