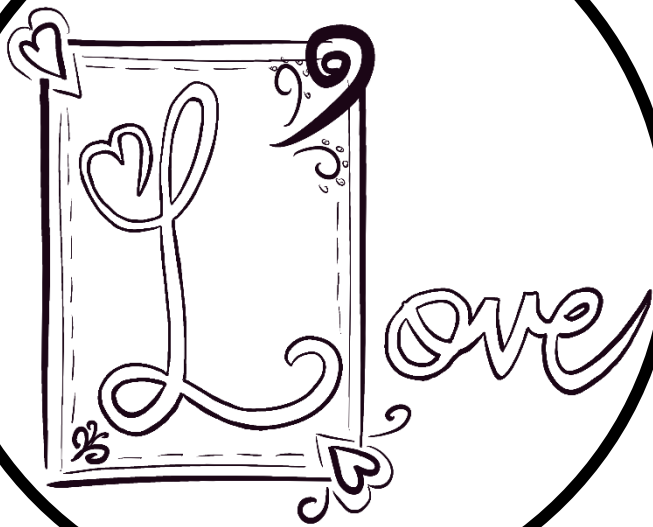


This week's theme is LOVE. This is week 4 of your advent count down, Christmas day is almost here! This week make sure you look ahead at the 'challenge together'

21



22

READ TOGETHER

*If you have a bible, why not turn to
Matthew 2: 1-21 and read it out loud?*

In this part of the story, Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem because they need to register for the census. While they were there, the time for Mary to give birth arrived but so many people were in Bethlehem every place to stay was full. They ended up in a stable and it was here that Mary gave birth to a son. He was wrapped in cloths and his bed was just a manger (which is an animal feeding trough!). They named him Jesus, as the angels had said, and he was the son of God. The shepherds came all the way to Bethlehem to meet him and later the Magi (wise men) travel to find him too. Everyone who saw him was amazed and went away praising God and giving him thanks.

23

IMAGINE TOGETHER

Can you imagine what it must have been like in the stable?

What do you think the shepherds thought when they found the King of Kings the angel told them about born in a stable rather than a palace?

Stables are not comfortable or fancy. However, this was the right place for the shepherds to meet Jesus because he was going to be a different kind of King. He would bring hope, peace, joy and love to every kind of person, the poor, the lonely, and the suffering. His birth is good news for everyone.

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GIVE THANKS / PRAY TOGETHER

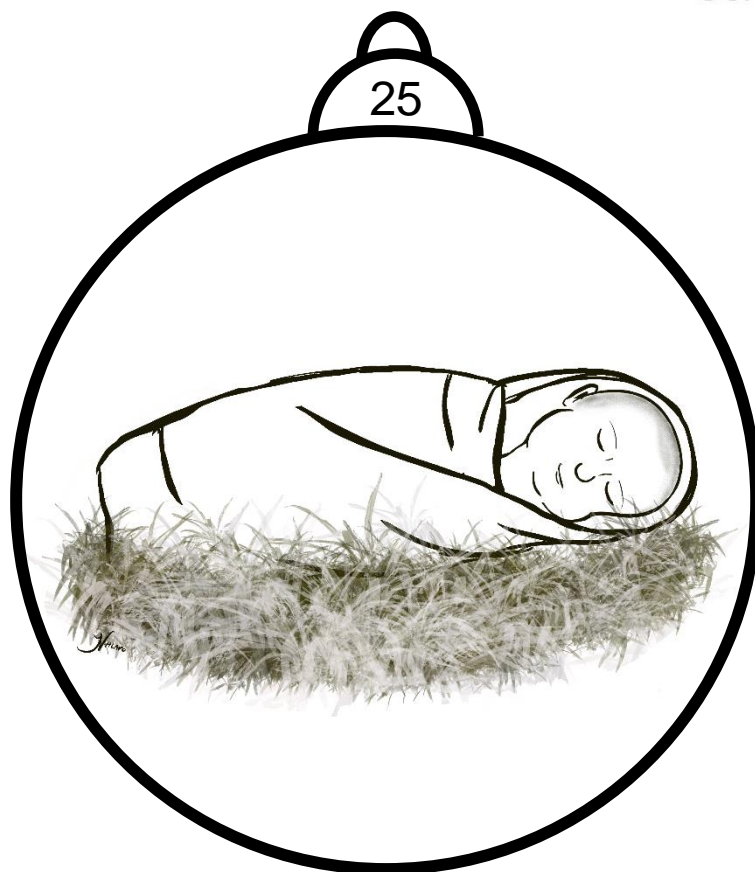
Who did you see today who needs to know the love of God? Someone in the street, a friend, or a teacher? Pray that they would know that God loves them.

Dear God, thank you that you gave your Son to be with us. Thank you that Jesus showed us that you love every kind of person - Help us to do the same as we celebrate his birth this Christmas.
Amen.

DO A CHALLENGE TOGETHER

Can you put together your very own 'tunnel viewer' nativity scene this week ready to display on Christmas day?

Use the pieces provided to work together on the colouring, cutting, gluing and assembly!



SING TOGETHER

Here is a Christmas carol for you to sing together that reminds us of the LOVE God has for us. He loves us so much that he chose to come into the world to be with us.

Away in a manger no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing the baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me Lord Jesus I ask you to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with you there.