

SHARING OUR LEARNING ABOUT ADVENT

WITH FAMILY WHĀNAU



- 1) **Make a Jesse Tree** for your class. Write explanations of its meaning and use. Add some extra people and symbols – research suitable examples. Share this with children in other classrooms during Advent.
- 2) **Make a power point** to explain the purpose of the Jesse Tree as calendar to mark progress through Advent by adding a new symbol each day and to remind people about the significant people who waited for Jesus. Share it with your family whānau or a younger class.
- 3) **Have a conversation with someone in your family** whānau or parish about when sin came into the world and what effect it had. **Talk** about how because God loved people so much God forgave them for disrupting their relationship with God. **Explain** how God wanted to repair the relationship and that is why God promised to send a Messiah to put things right. **Make a list** of the good effects this had on people.
- 4) **Create artworks** of Jesse Tree symbols and display them in the foyer of your school or parish church. Add simple stories about them and include their reference from the Scripture. Invite groups of children to come to the exhibition and you can explain to them that all of these people waited for Jesus to come and in Advent we remember all those who waited and that is why we have a Jesse Tree.
- 5) **Make a card** for a family member with a Jesse Tree on it and give it to someone in your family whānau. Write a short explanation of what a Jesse Tree is.
- 6) **Prepare a presentation** for assembly outlining the meaning and purpose of Advent and illustrate this with examples of Advent Calendars, Advent Wreaths, A Jesse Tree and other ways people can use Advent as a time to prepare for Christmas. Include Advent songs.
- 7) **Make up a game** using an image of Jesus in a manger (or use a model of this) to pass around a circle while children count down until the Year 0 when Jesus was born. This will help children get a sense of how long people waited for him to come. Decide what year you will start. Make a list of instructions about how to play it and share it with other older classes.
- 8) **Prepare a reflective** time to share with older classes about ways children of around your age can prepare for Jesus to come by inviting him to become a bigger part of your life. Use music and symbols and create an atmosphere of quiet prayerfulness and mindfulness. Refer to Slide 6 Lesson 1 for the flavour of ideas you could include.
- 9) **Make up your own way** of showing and sharing what you have learned and decide with whom you would like to share it.



Worksheet Name: _____

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