

Family Devotional

From November 27, 2016

Read: Isaiah 2: 1-5

Create: Give each child a piece of paper, something to draw with (marker or crayon) and a blindfold. Tell the children that they will be drawing a portrait of themselves, but they will be blindfolded and won't be able to look at their paper as they draw! Place the blindfolds on the children, and tell them to begin. After a few minutes have passed, tell them "times up!"

Collect the children's drawings and tell them to take off their blindfolds. Hold the portraits up and ask if they can identify each person. Then ask the following questions:

- Why is it hard to identify each person?
- If you'd never seen each other before, would you be able to recognize each other from these portraits? Why or Why not?

Explain to the children that a long time ago, people felt "in the dark" about God too. But God didn't keep his people in the dark. Read Isaiah 9: 1-2, 6 and ask the children to listen to the promise that God spoke through the prophet Isaiah. Then read John 1:1-9.

Reflect:

Who is this light that God sent into the world?

How was this Christmas story different from other Christmas stories you've heard? (A: It started with Creation; it explained why we needed Jesus to come)

Why did we need a Savior to come to earth? (A: So we could have our sins forgiven; so we could know what God is like)

How does Jesus bring light to our lives? (A: He shows us how to live; he takes away our sin; he helps us love each other.)

What customs do we have at Christmas time that remind us that Jesus is the light of the world? (A: We light Advent candles; we put lights on our houses and Christmas trees...)

Remember: Work together as a family to memorize/meditate on Romans 13:12 this week.

*So let us put aside the deeds of darkness
and put on the armor of light.*

Ideas: Write this passage down and hang it on the refrigerator. Say it together as a family during meal time each day. Write it on a chalk or white board and erase a couple of words each day until you can say it by memory.

Respond:

"Thank God for sending Jesus to be the "Light of the World"! Help me to let your light shine through me...Amen!"