

Advent is a time to love like Jesus

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. It is a special time to prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. Over the next four weeks, we can learn to love like Jesus. How will you practice ways to show your love for others each day?

Color the stained-glass window.

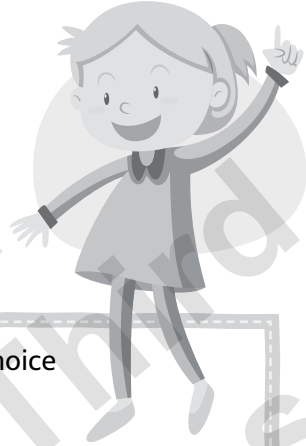


Go to the back of the book and color the CIRCLES in the heart.

Jesus, let this Advent be a time for me to grow in love for you and for others.

Making wise choices

Loving like Jesus is something we do each day. We can make wise choices to show people we care.



Answer the questions about a wise choice you can make to love like Jesus.

Other kids are teasing a new student. You ask the student to sit with you at lunch. **Is this a choice to love like Jesus?**

YES NO

You promise to help your dad with a chore. Then you find something you want to watch on TV. **Is this a choice to love like Jesus?**

YES NO

Your little brother breaks one of your favorite toys. You decide to forgive him. **Is this a choice to love like Jesus?**

YES NO



Jesus, remind me to show my love for others this Advent.

The Great Commandment

Jesus taught that the most important commandment is to love God with all our hearts, minds, bodies, and souls. The next greatest commandment is to love other people as we love ourselves. Together, these teachings are called the Great Commandment. We love like Jesus by obeying the Great Commandment.

Draw a heart around the words that describe how to love others. Cross out the words that don't belong.

Pout Share
Complain
Fight Help
Listen
Care

Jesus, teach me how to love others and myself.

Saint Nicholas

Saint Nicholas was a kind and generous man who cared for people in need. One story tells how he brought gifts to a poor family and left the gifts inside their house when they were sleeping. He showed his love for Jesus by sharing what he had with others.



Circle the differences in the stockings.



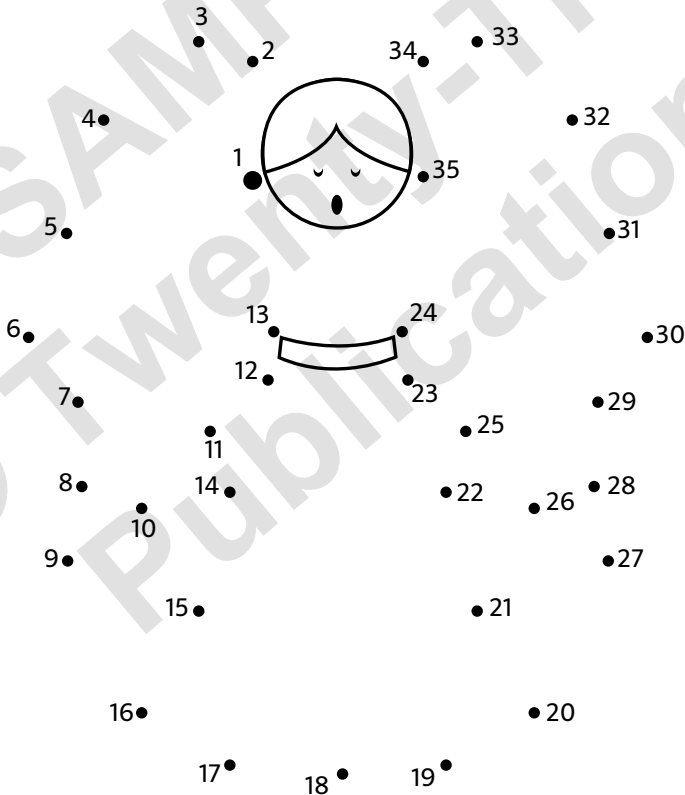
Jesus, help me to be kind and generous.



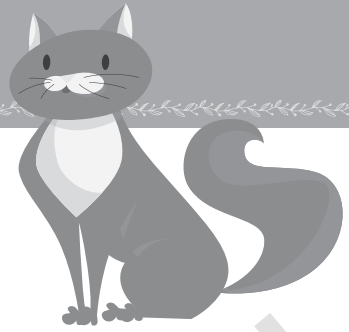
Mary, the mother of Jesus

One day an angel visited Mary and told her God had chosen her to be the mother of Jesus. Mary followed the way of love in caring for Jesus and for others.

Complete the picture of the angel by connecting the dots.



Jesus, watch over all mothers with love and care.



Caring for God's creation

Jesus liked to tell stories about the world around him. He talked about how God cares for the birds and the flowers. He taught that God's creation is a special gift. We honor God when we take care of the earth and its creatures.

Match the animal with the right picture.

Put me on a wheel, and I'll run for hours. Who am I?

Give me some seeds and water, and I'll sing to you all day. Who am I?

Don't bother me too much because I love to take long naps. Who am I?

Dig a hole in the backyard and you might find one of the bones I hid there. Who am I?

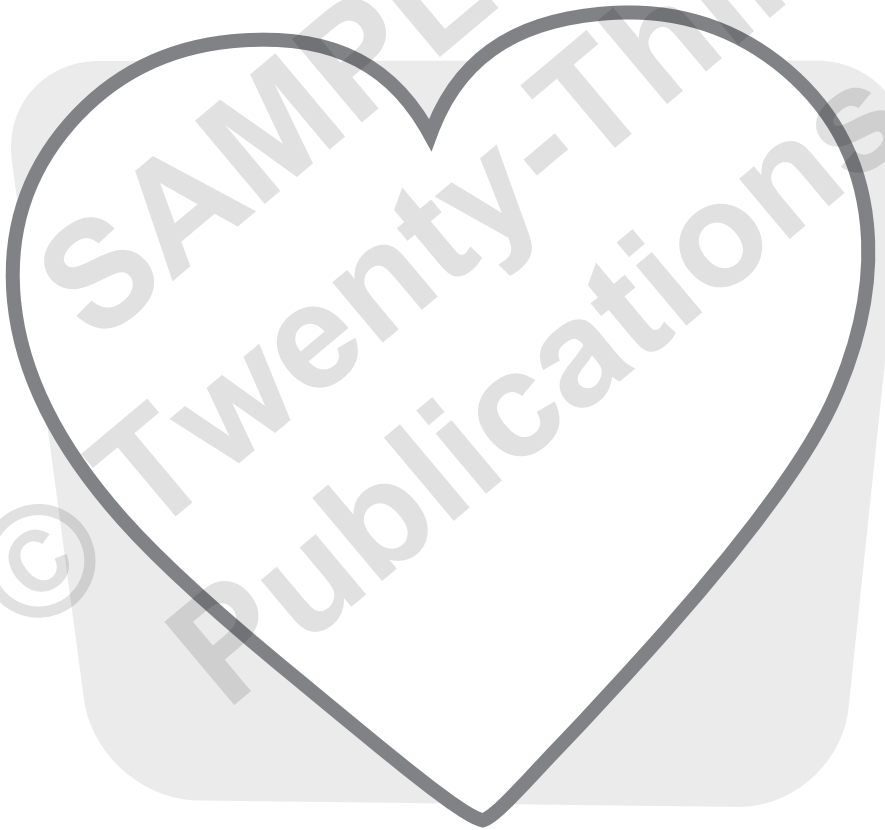


Jesus, remind me to care for God's beautiful world.

We offer prayers of love

Prayers of adoration express our love for God. When we pray, we also remember how much God loves us.

Make a valentine for God. Decorate the heart and write a message of love for God.



Jesus, thank you for showing
me your way of love.