

Advent Prayer Chain

MATERIALS NEEDED



strips of purple or pink construction paper, ten for each child



markers or crayons



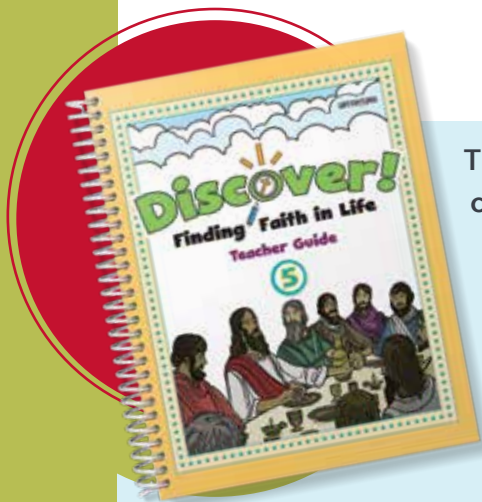
several staplers

1. Explain that praying for others is one way we follow the Prince of Peace, Jesus. Tell the children that Advent is a perfect time to make prayer a priority.
2. Tell the group that today they will make an Advent prayer chain. Explain that the prayer chain will help them count down each day until Christmas but also remind them of people they'd like to pray for.
3. Give each child ten long strips of construction paper. Instruct the children to complete each strip by writing the name of a person for whom they want to pray in a special way during Advent. Tell the children that they can write a description if they don't know the person's name (such as someone they see at church).

4. Have the children staple one strip together so that it forms a circle. Show them how to make a chain by looping a second strip through the first and stapling it into a circle, and so on. Continue until their chains have ten links. Assist each child in adjusting the band to fit comfortably around their head. Then have them tape or staple the ends together.

Process the Activity

- Tell the children that they can continue adding to their Advent prayer chains at home until they have one chain for each day of Advent.
- Lead a discussion as the children work on their prayer chains, asking them where they could keep their chains to remember to pray and count down to Christmas.



This activity is adapted from the Advent chapter of the Grade 5 Teacher Guide in the *Discover! Finding Faith in Life* program.

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