

Dear Families,

Welcome to the **JESUS** box! We have prepared this with the hope that it will help your family learn more about God and the stories of the Bible - but also to hear more of Jesus' story. You will have all the supplies you need to do lessons for six weeks.

We have included enough supplies for 3 children. You may have 3 early childhood kiddos in your family, if not, please share with a friend or neighbor! We have purposely made the box plain white so that your family can decorate it. Please go crazy with colors, markers, stickers and be sure to post a picture on social media so that we can enjoy! Tag us on Instagram *@fellowshipprogers.family* with *#ecjesusbox* so we can see your memory verses, songs and art!

You can also find copies of all the content by accessing the QR code on the lesson plans with your phone or go to the website at <https://www.fellowshipnwa.org/page/951?Item=852>.

Here are some ideas for how to bring the stories to life!

There is a lesson overview for every story. It lists three sections: Bible Activities, Worship Together, and Family Fun Activities. You don't need to do all of this on a Sunday. You can stretch this out over a few days each week!

The **Bible Activities** section refers to the following:

1. Bible Story **Video** - you will find one for every lesson on the family resources web page.
2. Puppet Show **Video** - the Bible story told by one of our Preschool Place puppets.
3. Popsicle Stick Puppets Activity - we have included the supplies to make puppets so that your children can retell the stories with their own puppets. Your child can color each of the week's characters and attach a craft stick. Use these again and again to retell the story throughout the week. You can use the inside lid of the JESUS box for a backdrop!
4. Craft Page - each story has a craft. You will find the supplies needed and instructions to go with each one. Enjoy! We would love to see your work!
5. Coloring Page - we have included coloring pages that go with each story. On the back you will also find the Bible story.
6. Read the Bible story together - You may read the story from the lesson plan or in "*The Jesus Storybook Bible*" (This version is a great retelling that will be easy for your youngest kids to understand. You can get this Bible online. We recommend having one handy while you have little ones at home.)

You can also play the **video** of one of the Early Childhood team members reading the story. Over the course of the week, you might also play the puppet show **video** of the story- Use all the videos for extra fun. Children learn through repetition, so this is a great chance for them to hear the story again and again during the week.

7. Be sure to share the Bible story with a friend! If you can't be together in person, share with your family or friends over Zoom.
8. Table Talk Questions - These are some general questions to use again and again. Take a little time at the dinner table to give everyone a chance to answer these questions. Remember that your children are still young. Table Talk may last 2 or 3 minutes but it's still a "win."

The **Worship Together** section has three parts:

1. Song - There are three fun songs related to this box. You can find the worship **videos** on the family resources web page. Enjoy! They are fun songs that will get you moving.
2. Memory Verse - Our memory verse for this box is **Luke 2:10-11** - *“But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring to you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord’.”*

We have included a refrigerator magnet to help you keep this verse in a prominent place. When doing scripture memory repetition is the key! You can find a **video** of the Bible verse with sign language on the family resources web page. We have also included the signs in your box. Please post your videos and tag us on Instagram at [@fellowshipprogers.family](https://www.instagram.com/fellowshipprogers.family) with **#ecjesusbox**. We would LOVE to see you and your kiddos memorizing God’s Word!

*TIPS - We suggest breaking the verse down into bite size pieces to memorize. Then add a new part each week or every few days. It seems long- but your kiddos can do it! Make it a family project to hide God’s Word in your hearts. Say the verse before each meal, before bed, when you wake up, when you get in the car, etc. Repeating the verse will help you to memorize it. Talk about what it means to be thankful to God. Then give thanks in everything! We want our children to not just memorize but also internalize the Scripture.

3. Pray together - Pray with your child. You get the opportunity to show them how to talk with God. Keep it short (they have short little attention spans), use words they can understand, and remember to ask God to help you trust in Him.

The **Family Fun Activities** section has two suggested activities for each lesson. These are meant to give you a little extra fun in discussing the Bible stories and making them become a regular part of our lives! Also, we added some candy canes to your box as a special treat!

One activity we have included that you may follow throughout the month is an Advent Calendar. We have wrapped it as a present to your family. Advent is the time leading up to Christmas. The time is one of expectant waiting and preparing for Jesus to come. There is twine to string up the envelopes for each day from December 1-25. Hang them up and set a time each day open the envelope corresponding to the date. There will be some verses to read together and a family activity.

I encourage you to take a few minutes at the beginning of each week to look through that week’s cards. That will give you a head’s up to any of the activities you might need to prepare or schedule in advance. You may not be able to do the activity on the day you open it, but you could schedule it for later in the week and have something to “wait” for, just like we expectantly wait for Jesus to arrive!

Please post your pictures on social media and tag us! We love to see how you are doing!

Contact us at ecrogers@fellowshipnwa.org if you have questions. We would also love to be praying for you and your family, so send us those requests.

We love you,

Fellowship Rogers Early Childhood Team