



# THE JESSE TREE

**T**his Advent let's remind ourselves of God at work in our world, though the stories of his people in the Bible and their part in the whakapapa (lineage) of Jesus, God's Big Story that we can be a part of as well.

**Jesse Trees** are a very old Christmas tradition and first started in Medieval times. They are used to help tell the story of the Bible from creation to the Christmas Story. This resource is designed to help families prepare for Christmas and the celebration of Jesus' birth.

The name comes from Jesse who was the father of King David.

One prophecy in the Bible, in the book of Isaiah, says:

*Like a branch that sprouts from a stump, someone from David's family will someday be king.*

*The Spirit of the Lord will be with him to give him understanding, wisdom, and insight.*

*He will be powerful, and he will know and honour the Lord. His greatest joy will be to obey the Lord.*

*This king won't judge by appearances or listen to rumours. The poor and the needy will be treated with fairness and with justice. His word will be law everywhere in the land, and criminals will be put to death. —Isaiah 11:1-4 (CEV)*

# INSTRUCTIONS



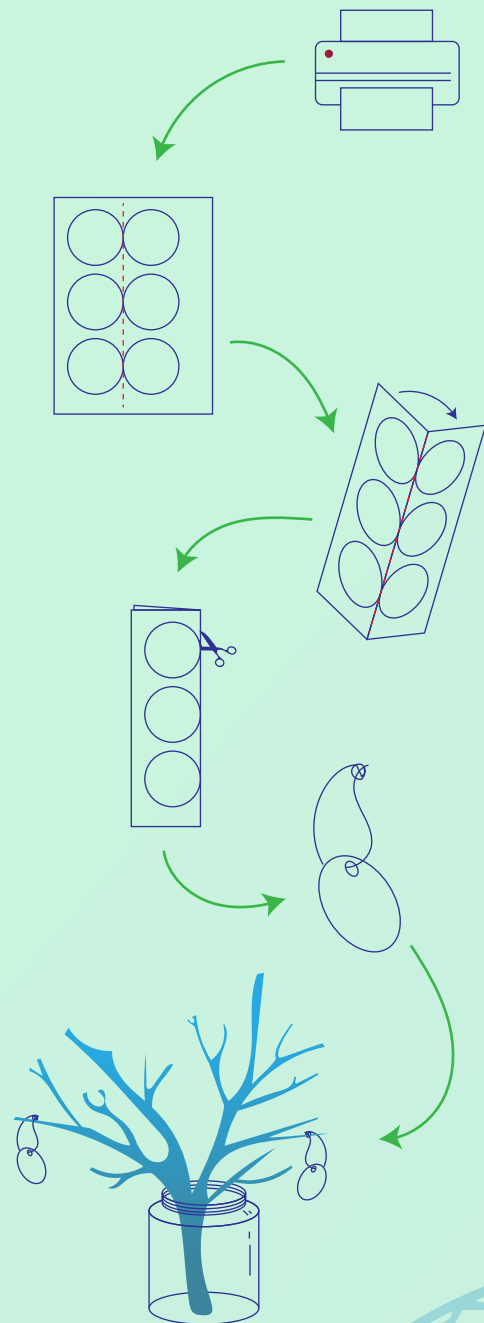
**Start On November 30<sup>TH</sup>**

## What you'll need:

- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Hole punch (or a way to make a small hole)
- Branch and jar (unless you are hanging each picture on your Christmas tree)
- Wool or ribbon

## How to use:

1. Print out the pictures on pages 4-12, fold and glue the pages using the dotted line as a guide, then cut the circles out. You could also invite your children to draw their own picture for each day.
2. Punch a hole in the top of each circle and thread through a piece of wool or ribbon so it can be hung on the tree.
3. Find a branch to be the trunk of your Jesse Tree. Place it in a jar and place some stones in the jar to stop it from tipping over.
4. Each day:
  - Choose a place to sit as a family
  - Show the picture for that day and talk about what the picture might be about, and where in the Bible we might find this.
  - Read the Bible passage on the back together. You might like to choose a different family member each day to do this.
  - Ask one or more of these questions:
    - I wonder which part of the story you like best?
    - I wonder which part of the story is the most important?
    - I wonder what we can learn about God from this passage?
5. Hang the picture on your Jesse Tree.



# JESSE TREE

Start On November 30<sup>TH</sup>

- DAY 1** ✦ **Creation** | **Globe** | Genesis 1:24-31
- DAY 2** ✦ **Adam and Eve** | **Apple** | Genesis 3:1-13; 20-24
- DAY 3** ✦ **Noah** | **Rainbow** | Genesis 6:5-22; 7:1-10; 17-24 ; 8:6-22
- DAY 4** ✦ **Abraham and Sarah** | **Stars** | Genesis 12:1-7; 15:1-6; 21:1-7
- DAY 5** ✦ **Joseph** | **Coloured Coat** | Genesis 37:3-4, 12-36, 41:42-57; 50:15-21
- DAY 6** ✦ **Miriam** | **Basket** | Exodus 2:1-10
- DAY 7** ✦ **Moses** | **Burning Bush** | Exodus 3:1-15
- DAY 8** ✦ **Rahab** | **Red Rope** | Joshua 2:1-21
- DAY 9** ✦ **Joshua** | **Trumpet** | Joshua 6:1-20
- DAY 10** ✦ **Gideon** | **Flaming Torch** | Judges 7:1-22
- DAY 11** ✦ **Ruth** | **Wheat** | Ruth 1:1-18
- DAY 12** ✦ **Hannah** | **Tears** | 1 Samuel 1:10-28
- DAY 13** ✦ **Samuel** | **Crown** | 1 Samuel 16:1-13
- DAY 14** ✦ **David** | **Sling** | 1 Samuel 17: 12-54
- DAY 15** ✦ **Solomon** | **Jewels** | 1 Kings 3:5-15
- DAY 16** ✦ **Elijah** | **Fire Horse** | 2 Kings 2:7-14
- DAY 17** ✦ **Naaman's Servant** | **River** | 2 Kings 5:1-16
- DAY 18** ✦ **Esther** | **Sceptre** | Esther 2:17-18; 3:8-15; 4:1-17; 5:1-4; 7:1-6
- DAY 19** ✦ **Isaiah** | **Stump** | Isaiah 11:1-4
- DAY 20** ✦ **Ezekiel** | **Bone** | Ezekiel 37:1-14
- DAY 21** ✦ **Daniel** | **Lion** | Daniel 6:1-28
- DAY 22** ✦ **Jonah** | **Fish** | Jonah 1:1-17; 2:10; 3:1-10
- DAY 23** ✦ **John the Baptist** | **Locust** | Luke 1:5-17; Matthew 3:1-4
- DAY 24** ✦ **Mary** | **Angel** | Luke 1: 26-38
- DAY 25** ✦ **Elizabeth** | **Dove** | Luke 1:39-56
- DAY 26** ✦ **Jesus** | **Manger** | Matthew 1:18-25



## **Creation**

Genesis 1:24-31



## **Adam & Eve**

Genesis 3:1-13,  
20-24



## **Noah**

Genesis 6:5-22,  
7:1-10,17-24,  
8:6-22



## Abraham & Sarah

Genesis 12:1-7,  
15:1-6, 21:1-7



## Joseph

Genesis 37:3-4,  
12-36, 41: 42-57,  
50:15-21

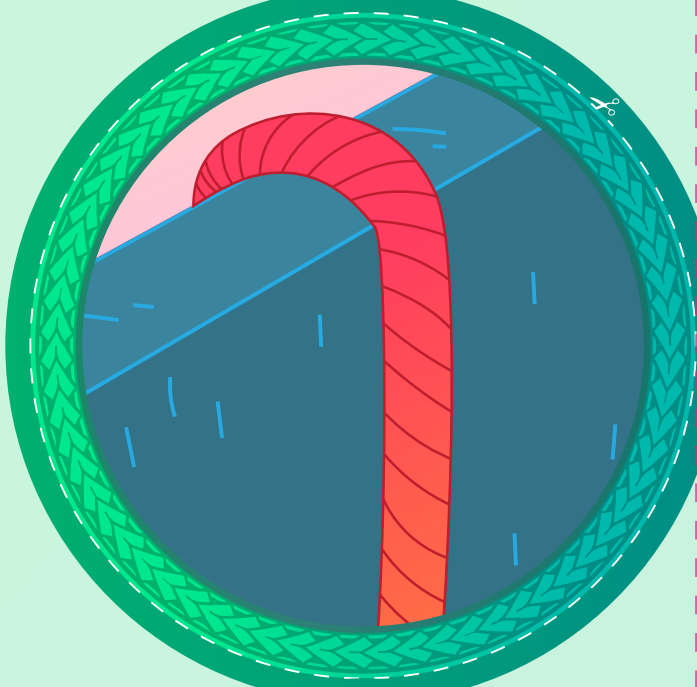


## Miriam

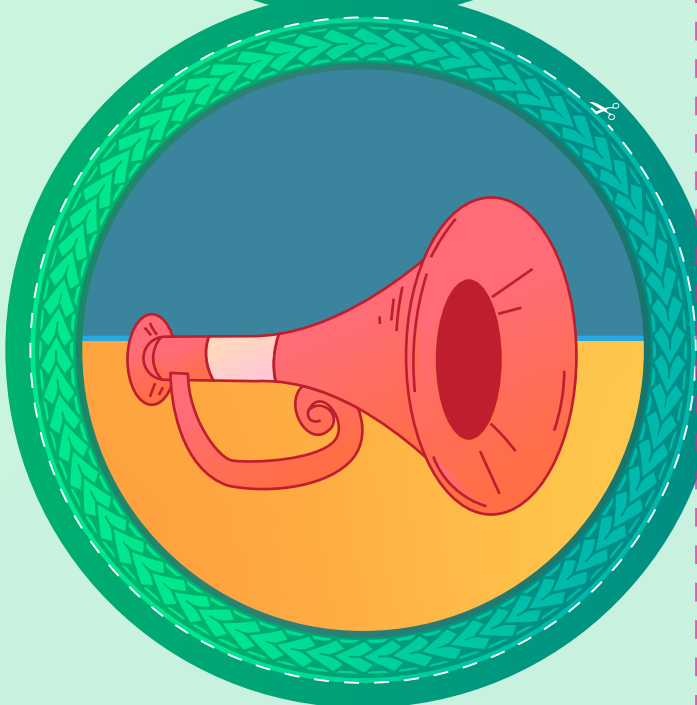
Exodus 2:1-10



**Moses**  
Exodus 3:1-15



**Rahab**  
Joshua 2:1-21

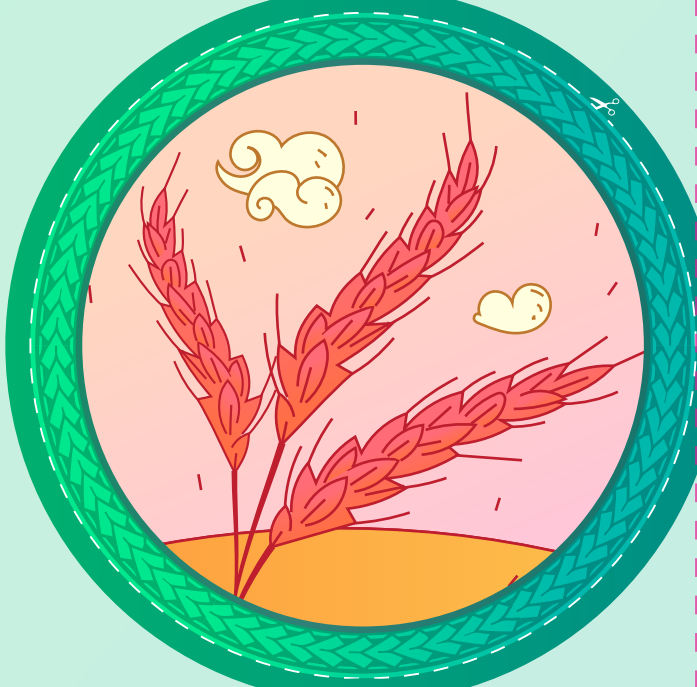


**Joshua**  
Joshua 6:1-20



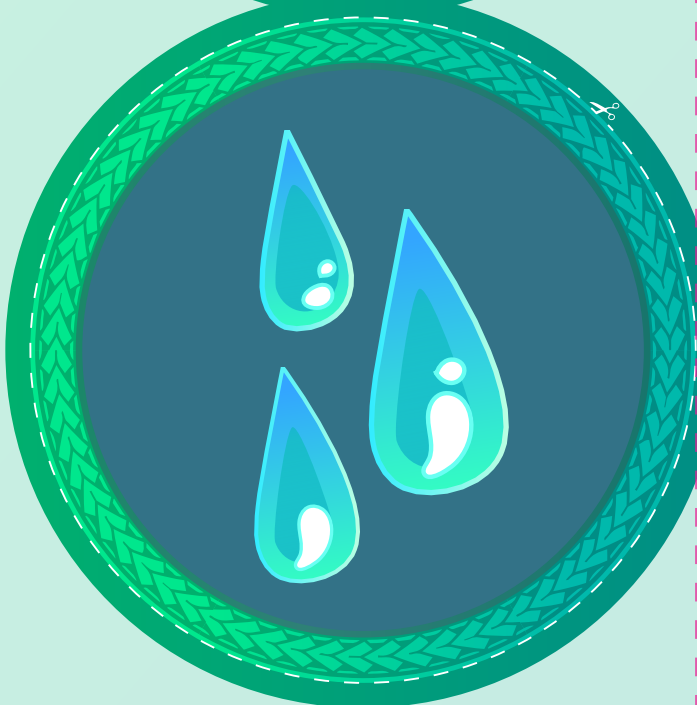
## **Gideon**

Judges 7:1-22



## **Ruth**

Ruth 1:1-18



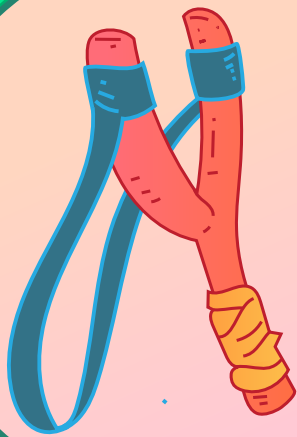
## **Hannah**

1 Samuel 1:10-28



## Samuel

1 Samuel 16:1-13



## David

1 Samuel 17:12-54



## Solomon

1 Kings 3:5-15

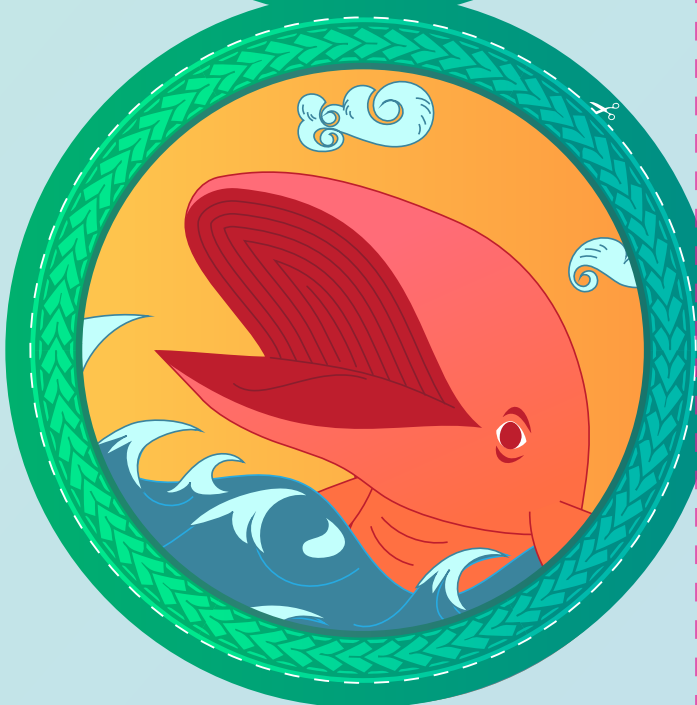




**Elijah**  
2 Kings 2:7-14



**Naaman's  
servant**  
2 Kings 5:1-16

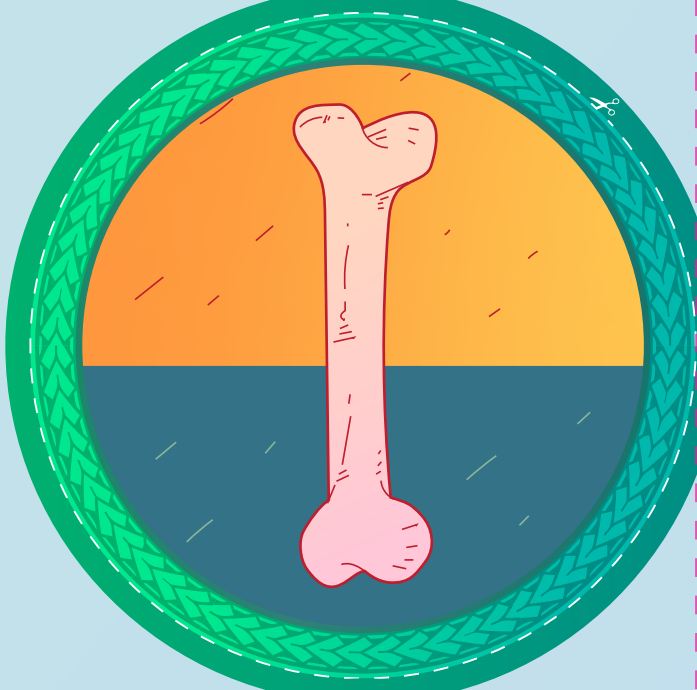


**Jonah**  
Jonah 1:1-17,  
2:10, 3:1-10



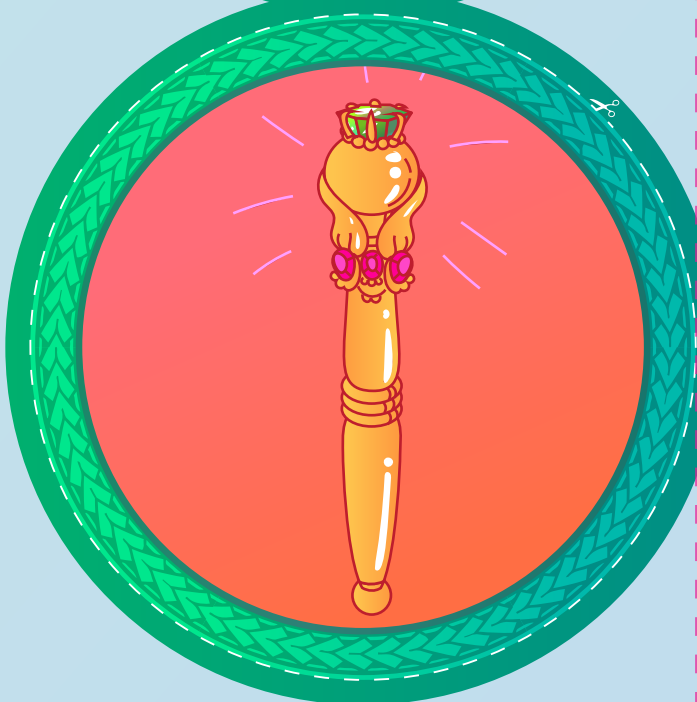
## Isaiah

Isaiah: 11:1-4



## Ezekiel

Ezekiel 37:1-14

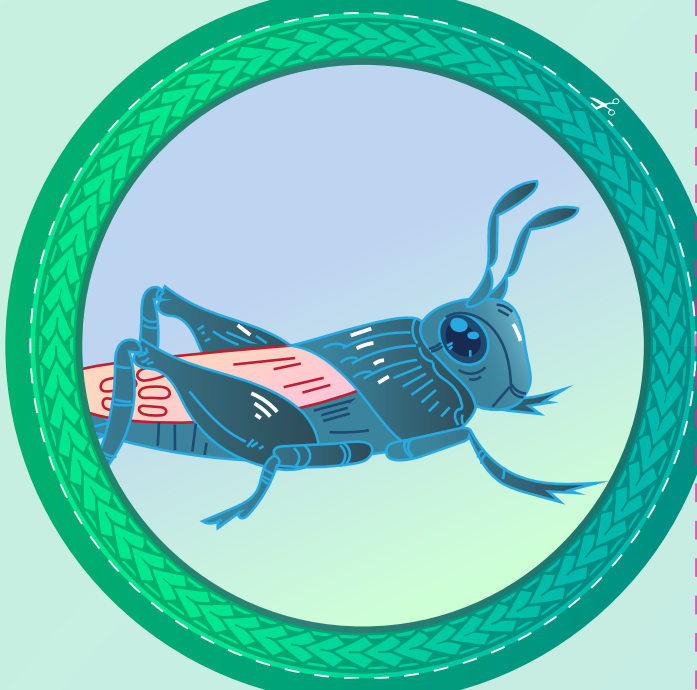


## Esther

Esther 2:17-18,  
3:8-15, 4:1-17,  
5:1-4, 7:1-6



**Daniel**  
Daniel 6:1-28



**John the Baptist**  
Luke 1:5-17,  
Matthew 3:1-4



**Mary**  
Luke 1:26-38



## Elizabeth

Luke 1:39-56



## Jesus

Matthew 1:18-25

