

NOV.
27

HOPE

*We can have hope
because God is
always with us.*

GOD IS IN THE PICTURE!

- Have your kids draw a picture of a moment they recently felt scared or alone.
- When they're finished drawing the picture, have them talk about that moment with you.
- After they talk about it, have them draw a picture of Jesus in the picture beside them.
- Now have them talk about what they see and how it would change the way they feel if they pictured Jesus with them when they felt scared or alone in the future.
- Write "hope" across the top of the picture and hang it on the refrigerator as a reminder this Christmas season that "God is with us."
- Discuss: Did you ever feel like God was with you in a particular situation? Describe that moment.

IMMANUEL

- Gather your family and read Isaiah 7:14 + Matthew 1:23
- Explain: Jesus has a special name—Immanuel—which means "God with us." When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, He was God in the flesh. We can't see God with our eyes or touch Him with our fingers, but people could see and touch Jesus. And because Jesus was human (while still being God), He completely understood what it was like to be human—to be tired, hungry, thirsty and tempted.
- Listen or sing along with the Advent hymn "O come, o come Emmanuel." How does it make you feel to know that God is always with you?
- Play charades where family members take turns showing (without using words or sounds) various places or situations where God is with us, while others are trying to guess.



EXTRA IDEAS

A POCKET REMINDER

Write “God” on a small object such as a smooth rock, coin or a LEGO brick. Place the object in your pocket every day this week. When something comes up that feels scary, put your hand in your pocket to remind yourself that you can trust that God is with you.



GOD IS LIKE AIR

Hold a deflated balloon. Ask everyone to watch what you’ll do next. Blow a deep breath of air into the balloon. Ask: “What just happened?” Continue: “I filled the balloon with air.” Keep blowing until the balloon is full. Tie a knot and invite everyone to join you in tossing the balloon and keeping it from falling to the ground. Discuss: “After I put air inside the balloon, was there any air left in the room?” ... “Of course! If you go into the other room, will there be air there?” ... “Yes!” “If you’re all by yourself on the playground at school, is there air there?” ... “Yes! Like the air we can’t see, God is also there.”



FORTRESS OF FAITH

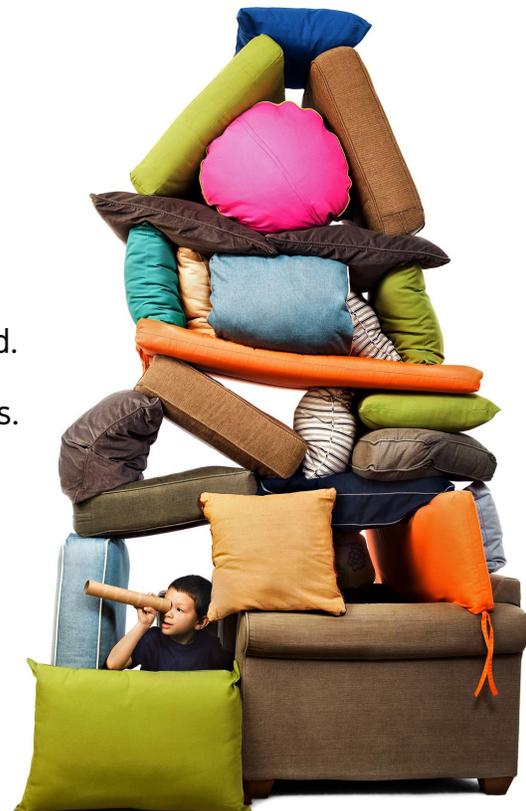
Build a pillow fort using kitchen chairs or a table, pillows, cushions, cardboard boxes, and a few big blankets.

Imagine what the fort could protect you from. A dragon? An army? A giant stink bomb? Use your imagination, but follow your children’s lead.

Talk about how no matter what’s on the outside, God is always with us. His presence is all around us!

Turn off the lights, turn on a flashlight or Christmas lights, gather in your fort and read Psalm 139:1-12.

Finish by playing “Hide and Seek”, or better yet, “Flashlight Hide and Seek.” Remind your children that God is always with us and that there is nowhere they can hide from God.



Let's give him a HANDeL

Have you ever heard a beautiful piece of music called the Messiah by George Frideric Handel? It's pretty incredible, and is considered a timeless classic.

Handel's friend, Charles Jennens, used Scriptures to write the words to the music. Here are some sentences from the Messiah.

Can you fill in the blanks using the Bible verses below? *

 For unto us a _____ is born.
(Isaiah 9:6)

 _____ to God in the highest.
(Luke 2:14)

 He shall _____ peace.
(Zechariah 9:10)

 He hath _____ our griefs.
(Isaiah 53:4)

 In Christ shall all be made _____
(1 Corinthians 15:22)

* Based on KJV or NKJV translations of the Bible.



 **Idea**

Ask Alexa or Siri to play Hallelujah Chorus as you decorate your Christmas tree.



WORSHIPPING CHRIST

Like Handel, you can create something beautiful to show your love for Jesus. You can use musical notes, words, art supplies or anything else you can find, to express how thankful you are that Jesus came to rescue us.



HALLELUJAH CHORUS

Here's a line of music from one of the most famous parts of the Messiah called the "Hallelujah Chorus."

C F C C F C F C F C F G C

Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.

Hand Prints Art

Grab some paint and some paper. Now let's see what we can do using only our hand prints, fingerprints, and even footprints? Can you make a Christmas tree? A wreath? A reindeer?



Jumbled Jellybeans Riddle

Samantha gave her friend Lucy a bag of jellybeans for Christmas full of Lucy's favorite colors. The bag has five different colors of jellybeans, each with a different amount. Can you figure out how many of each color went into the bag?

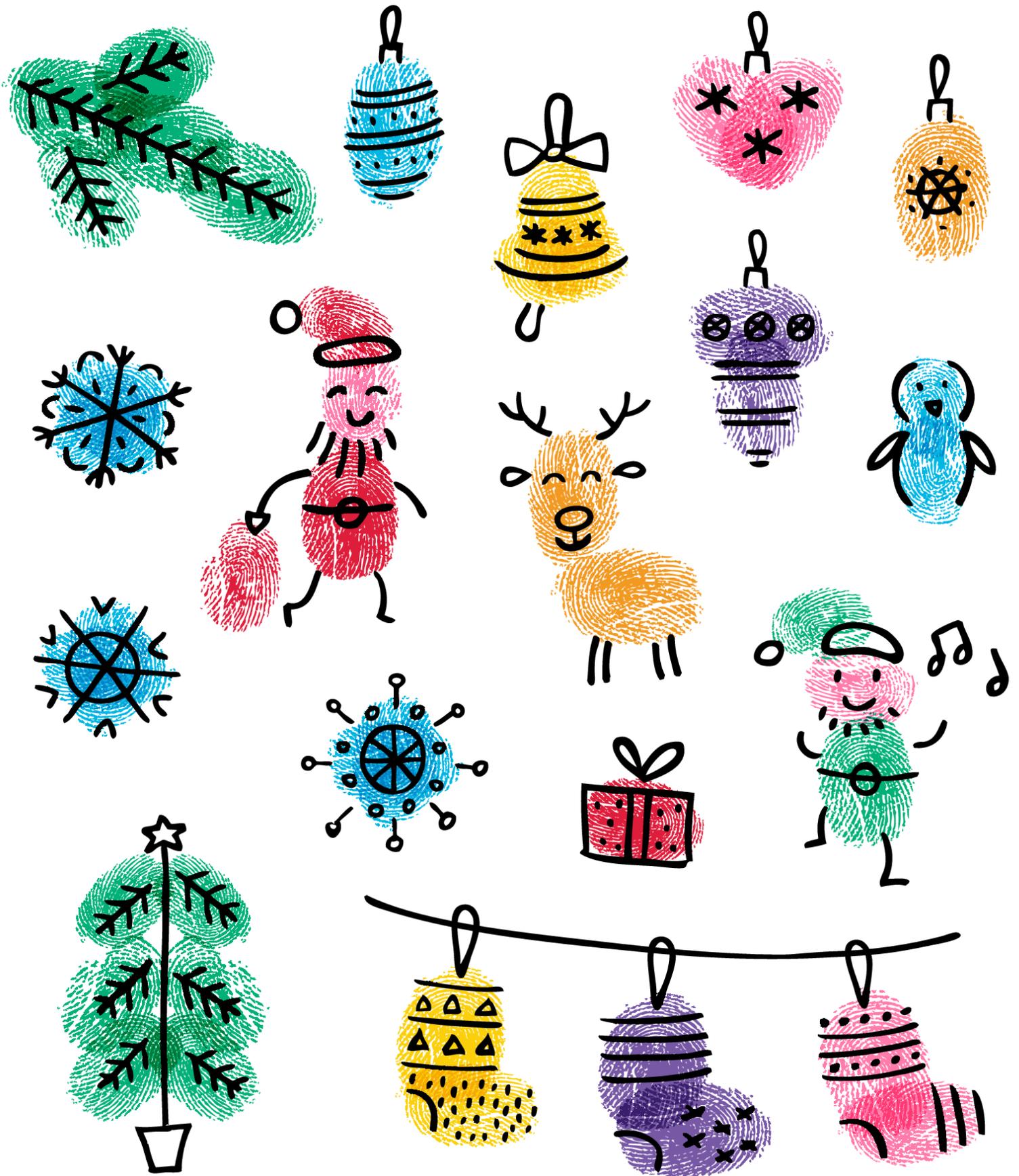
(Answers on page 32.)

CLUES:

1. There are twice as many purple as pink.
2. There are three more orange than pink.
3. There is one more blue than orange.

	1	2	3	4	5
BLUE	<input type="checkbox"/>				
YELLOW	<input type="checkbox"/>				
PURPLE	<input type="checkbox"/>				
ORANGE	<input type="checkbox"/>				
PINK	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Winter Finger Prints Art



MAKE YOUR OWN FINGER PRINTS HERE

