

Kidmax at Home

Big Idea: When we listen to God, we learn our purpose.

God Story: Mary | Luke 1:5-56

Supplies needed: 10 sticky notes – green if possible (or paper squares), wall-safe tape, brown and yellow construction paper, scissors, markers

Conversation Starters: Use these questions to get your kids thinking about the Big Idea. Get ideas flowing by sharing some of your own ideas too!

- What do you want to be when you grow up?
- What do you think God wants you to be?
- What do you think your purpose is right now?

Video: watch this week's video at www.themeetinghouse.com/kidmax

Pray & Discuss: After the video take time to talk about it together.

- What happened in the God Story? What was the life story about?
- How do you think these two stories connect to our Big Idea (**When we listen to God, we learn our purpose**)?
- **Pray:** God is a part of the conversation with us! You can model for your kids that they can pray to God anytime. You don't need specific words or length but it's great to tell God what you're thinking and ask for him to speak to you and remind you he is near.

Prayer Tree

Supplies: 10 sticky notes – green if possible (or paper squares), wall-safe tape, brown and yellow construction paper, scissors, markers, green crayons

- Cut out a Christmas star from the yellow construction paper. On it write "What is God's purpose for us this week?"
- Cut a brown piece of construction paper into a tree trunk.
- The sticky notes are going to make your tree! Give everyone a few sticky notes and a marker. Spend some time praying silently, asking God what his purposes are for you this week.
- Write what you hear from God onto the sticky notes. Work together to try and think of 10. Some examples include: be kind to others, leave a note for a neighbor, work hard at school, call grandparents, donate to a food bank, etc.
- Using all your pieces, create a purpose tree on a wall in your home. Stick the star on top, then create a pyramid with your sticky notes (rows of 1, 2, 3, 4) and then the brown stump at the bottom. This will be your reminder to live out God's purposes for your lives this week!

Additional Activities

Small Group

Supplies: scissors, printouts of doves, angels, stars, 1 bag for each family with the following inside: masking tape, dove cutout, star cutout, angel cutout, garland, fabric.

- **Prep:** Cut out the doves, angels, and stars. Create a bag for each family with the contents to decorate a Christmas tree.
- Quickly review this week's God Story and Big Idea.
- Give each family a bag. Have one family pull an item out, one at a time, and ask the group what each item's purpose is.
- After the bag is empty, reveal that these items are all meant to decorate a Christmas tree. But, we don't have trees... so you'll need a volunteer in your family to pose as one!
- Each family will choose one "tree" and the rest become the decorators. As they work, discuss:
 - In this week's story, who listened to God?
 - What was Mary's purpose?
 - What was Jesus' purpose while he was on earth? (to save us from sin, show us God's love, and set up his kingdom)
- Emphasize that Christmas is all about celebrating Jesus!
- Once families are done, snap some pictures and award the family who did the best job.
- Once the items are put away, regather and discuss:
 - Do you think God has a special purpose for you? If so, what do you think it might be? How are you listening to God to find out?
 - What do you think your purpose is at home? At school or work? With your friends?
- Close by praying together

Key Verse Coloring Page

Supplies: key verse coloring page (1 per person), crayons or markers

- Give everyone a key verse coloring page to complete. They can stick this up at home to help them remember this month's verse.