

The Rock, Sunday 6th December 2020

Something's Coming.

Warm up

Equipment

A watch or timer

Ask the children to find a space and sit down. Tell them that you are going to time 2 minutes on your watch and they must guess when that time is up. When they think 2 minutes have passed, they should raise their hand.

Ask the children how they found the activity. Was it easy or hard? Do they like waiting for things? Explain that during this session, we will be thinking about waiting for something very special.

The Point: For fun and to introduce the idea of waiting.

Teaching time

Equipment

Prophecies and Promises text (attached)

Ask the group if they are waiting for anything or looking forward to something. Can they tell you about it (it might be a holiday or birthday or special event)? How do they know it's going to happen – who told them? How much longer have they got to wait?

Explain to the children that the Bible is divided into 2 parts. The Old Testament tells us the story of God's people and the New Testament tells how that story continued after Jesus came. Say that in the Old Testament, sometimes God would give special messages to particular people to tell everyone else. These people were called prophets. Some of these messages were warnings about the way people were acting at the time, some of them even told people about the coming of Jesus.



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Read the texts attached.

Explain to the children that it is easy for us to see how these passages relate to Jesus, but to God's people at the time, they would not have known exactly what was going to happen, this was a bit like a clue, pointing to Jesus. Ask the children how they think God's people would feel about

this promise. Why would they want Jesus to come? Would it be easy to wait? Is it harder or easier to wait when you don't know how long you've got to wait?

Say that we remember this waiting in the month before Christmas every year and we call it Advent. For us, we can celebrate the coming of Jesus and how He fulfilled these prophecies. Perhaps take some time to thank God for these things.

The Point: To show what God's people were waiting and hoping for.

Download

[SP801_5s_6s_Prophecies_and_Promises.pdf](#)

Response

Equipment

Hearts (attached) printed or draw hearts, colour in and decorate, and write the words 'Make me Ready' on each heart.

Print out the attached hearts sheet onto red card, and cut out the hearts.

Think about how Advent is a time for us to prepare for Christmas, and particularly for us to prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth, and to prepare for Jesus' return.



Tell the children that there is a Christmas carol that has the line; 'Let every heart prepare Him room.' Explain that each of us has a choice to make about making room for Jesus in our hearts this Christmas and we can use advent to prepare for Jesus too.

Invite the children to think about what this means to them and if they want to take this moment to respond, by making room for Jesus this advent. If so, invite keep a heart with them as a reminder.

The Point: To give space to process what's been taught and to let God into that.

Download

[SP801_5s_6s_Every_Heart_Prepare_Him_Room.pdf](#)

THE ROCK

(Material taken from Energize by Urban Saints - <https://www.energize.uk.net/>)

