

FOR PARENTS:

This week, your child learned about the start of Jesus' ministry on earth and how he was the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. The time leading up to Easter is an opportunity to spend some time doing a few of these activities with your family. Don't forget the discussion questions that go along with each one. Have fun!

ACTIVITY 1

FAMILY TREE

The book of Matthew begins with a genealogy—or a family tree—that shows that Jesus' ancestors were Abraham and David. This was important to the Jews, because they knew the Messiah was going to be a descendent of these well-known Israelites. God had made promises to Abraham and David that through their descendants the nations would be blessed.

Using the tree template on the following page, or blank paper, have your child draw his family tree with as many relatives as he or she can remember. While he or she is working, tell him or her anything special about your family (example: Great-Grandpa served in World War II). Ask your child if he or she has a special memory with his or her grandparents or other relatives.

Why was it important that Jesus came from Abraham and David's family?

ACTIVITY 2

LENT

Lent is a religious observance on the Christian calendar that begins Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter. During this season, Christians prepare for the celebration of Easter through prayer, repentance of sins and sometimes giving up something for the duration of Lent. Traditionally, Lent was said to last forty days to symbolize Jesus' forty days in the wilderness while he was tempted by Satan. Many Christians choose to give something up during this season, such as a favorite food or TV.

Whether you celebrate Lent in your church or not, talk to your child about Jesus' time in the wilderness in Matthew 4:1-11.

How did Jesus respond when he was tempted by Satan? What should we do when we face temptation?

Prayer is a big part of the Lenten season. Trace your child's hand on a piece of construction paper and cut it out. On each finger, write the name of one person you and your child can pray for until Easter. Maybe you could invite one or more of these people to church with you.

BUCK DENVER & FRIENDS
PRESENT...

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE EASTER?

CURRICULUM

WEEK 1

MY FAMILY TREE

