

Climbing Guide

Suggestions for going further with today's theme at home.



Thinking about the Theme

- What two positive qualities about your dad come to mind when you think about your childhood?

Getting into God's Word

- Read Matthew 1:18-25.
- How would you feel in Joseph's place in verse 19? Then in verse 20-21?
- How would you explain what is going on to family and friends?
- What is significant about naming the child Jesus?
- Besides fulfilling prophecy, why is Jesus' virgin birth necessary?

Getting God's Word into Our Lives

- How have you experienced Jesus as "Immanuel" in your life recently?
- What can you learn about faith from Joseph's example? How about obedience?

Praying about It

- Pray John Wesley's "Covenant Prayer": I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by you or laid aside for you, exalted for you or brought low by you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to your pleasure and disposal.

Doing Something to Make It Stick

- Every time you see a depiction of an angel this week, repeat the phrase, "Give him the name Jesus" and consider that the Savior has come.

Christmas events/parties are listed below. Please contact your leader/ teacher for detailed information:

- December 12th United Methodist Youth Fellowship
- December 14th Morning Glory Women's Circle
- December 17th All high school graduates up to age 22 and current college students
- December 19th Share & Care Sunday School Class

January Newsletter Items are due to sally@mountzion-umc.org or to the Church Office by Friday, December 17th.

The children will practice for their **Christmas musical** program this Saturday, December 18th, at 10 am in the Sanctuary. The Children's Christmas musical, "*Shepherds Sheep and a Savior*" will be at the 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services, on Sunday, December 19th.

Winter Small Group Schedule:

- December 15th-Leadership Forms are due.
- December 15th-Small Group Information Forms are due-- forms are available in the Narthex and the Fellowship Hall.
- December 19th-Winter Small Group Catalogs will be available in the Narthex and the Fellowship Hall
- January 2nd-Rally Day
- January 9th-Small Groups will begin this week.

There are three **Winter Small Groups** that have begun registration in order to provide materials for the class, Financial Peace, Changes That Heal: How to Understand Your Past to Ensure a Healthier Future and Divorce Care. Handouts are located in the Narthex and in the Fellowship Hall with complete details.

You are invited to an **Open House at the Mount Zion Parsonage** on Wednesday, December 29th, from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Leonard, Donna, Josiah, and Daniel (and Gunner) would love to have you drop in to enjoy some snacks and fellowship. You don't need to bring anything, just come and visit. The parsonage is the brick building just to the left of the church.

CAFÉ is a ministry enjoyed by all, and is a great way to welcome visitors to Mount Zion. Coffee, creamer, and sweeteners are provided. Host/Hostess' set-up, provide snacks and clean-up. CAFÉ is from 9:30 to 10:00 am. Volunteers are needed for December 19th & 26th. Please sign-up in the kitchen.