



# KIDS HOUSE PARTY

**PARENT GUIDE**

*December 20<sup>th</sup>*

## **Life App Definition**

Christmas — celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

## **Main Idea**

As we kick off the week of Christmas, we head to Luke 2:1-7 and discover more about when Jesus was born. From a human perspective, this whole situation must have seemed crazy to Mary and Joseph. Not only was Mary expecting the baby who would save the world, but now she and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem for the census. When they arrived, there was no room for them to stay except for the place where they kept the animals. As hectic as this moment was, this is just how God wanted Jesus to enter the world. Looking back over the stories included in the Bible, time and again it comes back to God's love for His creation. Right from the start, God wanted to have a relationship with us. Even when we messed that up with our sin, God continued to love and make a way to rescue us. Jesus is proof that God loves us unconditionally.

## **Memory Verse**

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord" (Luke 2:11 NIRV).

## **Bottom Line**

God loved us so much that He gave us a Savior.

## **Monthly Profession**

I will walk in peace because I am taught of the Lord.

## **Small-Group Discussion**

Review the story and use the following questions to reinforce the lesson learned from the story.

- What was Joseph's job?
  - A carpenter
- What did the messenger come to tell the people of Nazareth?
  - That everyone must go to the town they were born in to be counted
- Where did Mary and Joseph have to go?
  - Bethlehem

- What did the prophet Micah say would come out of Bethlehem?
  - A ruler over Israel
- What problem did Mary and Joseph face when they got to Bethlehem?
  - There were no rooms available for them.
- Where did they end up staying?
  - In a place where the animals stayed
- What did Mary name the baby?
  - Jesus
- Where did baby Jesus sleep?
  - In the animals' feeding trough
- God sent His very own Son as a baby to do what?
  - Rescue the whole world
- What could you give to someone this year that isn't a "thing"?
- Why did God send Jesus for us? Why did we need a Savior?
- What are some ways we can show others the love God has for them?

## Object Lesson

The following activity is intended to help your children apply the lesson that was learned in today's House Party. Complete the activity as a family by following the steps below.

### Supplies Needed

- Five-finger prayer guide (attached)

### Activity

- Teach the kids the five-finger prayer, using the dialogue below.
- Give your children their five-finger prayer guide to use as a visual while you go over it.
- As you go over the prayer, stop and allow your children to share people they can pray for in each area.
- Ask the kids if they have ever heard of the five-finger prayer.
- Explain that each finger represents a different group of people to pray for.
- Encourage them to point to each finger as you explain how to pray.
  - "Your thumb is for the people closest to you, like your family and friends."
    - Allow kids to share some family members or close friends they could pray for.
  - "Your index or pointer finger is for people who instruct you or teach you, like your teachers, coaches, and leaders at church."
    - Allow kids to share some of the teachers, coaches, and leaders in their lives that they could pray for.
  - "Your middle finger is the tallest. It's for the people who lead us, like government leaders."

- Allow kids to name some of our government leaders that they could pray for.
- "Your ring finger is the weakest finger. It's for those who are sick or most in need."
  - Allow kids to share any prayer request they may have for people who are sick or in need.
- "And finally, your little finger or pinky is for you."
- Tell the children you all will now pray together and point to your fingers as you go.
- Encourage the children to remember the bottom line for today as they pray: **God loved us so much that He gave us a Savior.**
- Pray through each finger prayer with your children. You can each take turns praying.

## **Prayer**

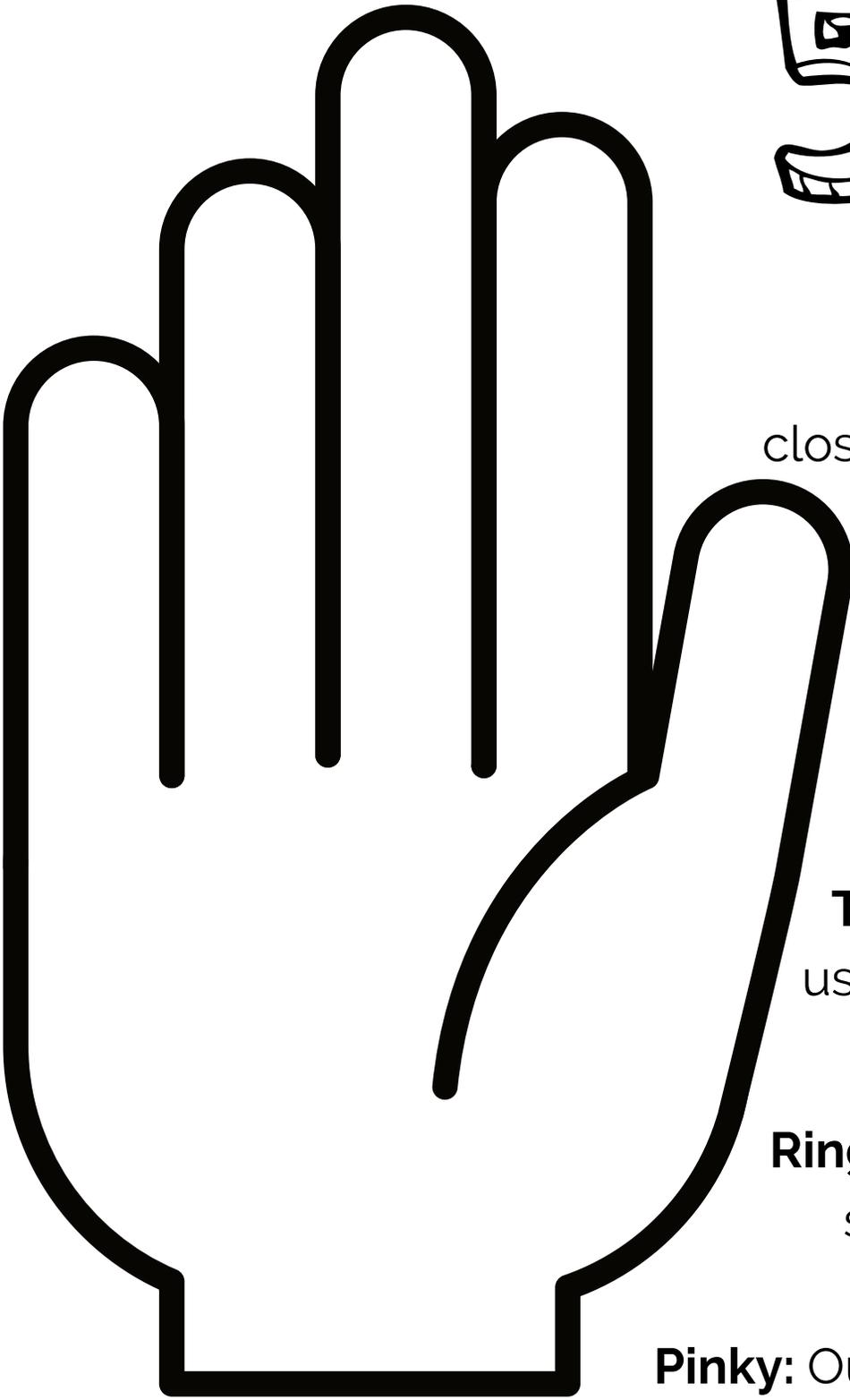
Close out the prayer by thanking God for loving us all SO much that He sent Jesus as a Savior for everyone.

Dear God,

Thank You for giving us the greatest gift. You loved us so much that You sent Your only Son to be our rescuer—to save us from our sins so that we could be part of Your family forever. Thank You for giving us such an amazing reason to celebrate at Christmas. In the midst of our busy day on Christmas, remind us to take a moment to thank You for all You have given us. We love You. In Jesus' name, amen.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# The 5-finger prayer



**Thumb:** Those who are closest to you & your family

**Pointer:** Those who point you in the right direction (like your teachers and pastors)-- pray for wisdom

**Tallest:** Those who lead us (like the government)-- pray for guidance

**Ring:** Those who are weak, sick, in trouble, or need healing

**Pinky:** Our prayers for ourselves

"Rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances"

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**