

A Christmas Prayer Journey

An Interactive All-Age Event



INTRODUCTION

Research tells us that we all learn better when all of our senses are engaged. The Christmas Prayer Journey is a wonderful all-age, interactive, multi-sensory experience of the Christmas story.

Included in this resource are all the instructions, templates and print resources you need to facilitate this event.

The Set Up:

Be sure to set your Christmas Prayer Journey somewhere there is plenty of space. The idea is for participants to walk the journey from start to finish, with each station providing a reflection and sensory activity. You may choose to utilise multiple rooms, or even outside areas if suitable. Between each station, place paper stars as a trail guide for participants to follow (if you're brave, you may choose to use star-shaped confetti!)

For each of the 5 reflection station, we have created a poster and an instruction card to display.

Introduction Station:

Equipment Needed:

Introduction poster and instruction card

Cardboard Box

Christmas paper

Marker Pen

Torch

Set Up:

Begin by making a 'Christmas Stargazing Box'. Take a cardboard box. On one interior wall, write in bold letters:

"ARE YOU READY? God sent a special star for the shepherds and Wise Men to follow, so that they could find the baby Jesus. Are you ready for the journey to find Jesus? If so, follow the stars..."

On the opposite side of the box, cut a star-shaped peephole. Cover the box with Christmas paper (don't forget to cut out the peephole!), and place on a table at the start of your Prayer Journey.

Display Introduction poster at this station.

Station One: Baggage

Equipment Needed:

Suitcase

Stones or rocks

Bin or plastic bucket

Station One poster and instruction card

Set Up:

Arrange suitcase on the floor or table, with the lid open.

Place the rocks inside the suitcase (be sure to have plenty of rocks, as each participant will need one!)

Display Station One poster and instruction card at this station.

Station Two: The Journey of the Shepherds

Equipment Needed:

Something to act as a frame for mobile (eg, a portable washing line, hula hoop suspended with fishing line, or even a bicycle wheel attached to a stand!)

Tinsel

Strips of coloured paper

Pens or pencils

Pegs

Candy canes

Station Two poster and instruction card

Set Up:

Decorate your mobile frame with tinsel, or similar decorations. Attach pegs (if using a hula hoop, you may need to tie pegs to the hoop)

Display strips of paper, either on a table beside your frame, or hanging from the pegs.

Hang candy canes from your frame.

Display Station Two poster and instruction card at this station.

Station Three: The Journey of the Wise Men

Equipment Needed:

Glass jugs of water

Drinking glasses

Cushions/Bean bags (optional)

Station Three poster and instruction card

Set Up:

Place jugs of water and glasses on a table. You may want to pre-pour some glasses for younger children.

If you want, you may also choose to create a comfortable seating space with cushions or bean bags at this station.

Display Station Three poster and instruction card at this station

Station Four: The Gifts of the Wise Men

Equipment Needed:

Chocolate Coins

Frankincense incense sticks, holder and matches

Myrrh-scented oil and cotton buds

Present cards (see template in printable resources)

Station Four poster and instruction card

Set Up:

Arrange materials on a table.

Place incense stick in holder and light it.

Place cotton buds with the Myrrh-scented oil

Display Station Four poster and instruction card at this station.

Station Five: Your Journey with Jesus

Equipment Needed:

Items to create a nativity scene (this can be as elaborate or simple as you want. Just make sure to have the manger and baby Jesus.)

Christ Candle

Tealight candles

Matches

Bluetooth speaker or cd player with Christmas music

Christmas lights (optional)

Station Five poster and instruction card

Set Up:

For this final station, try and arrange this in an intimate space. If possible, have dimmed lighting or christmas lights illuminating the space.

Create a nativity scene, with the manger and baby Jesus in the centre.

On a table, (or floor if safe) arrange the tealight candles in the shape of a cross.

(Be sure to place something underneath the candles to protect the table surface). In the centre of the cross, place the Christ Candle.

Make sure to light the Christ Candle at the beginning of your event.

Display Station Five poster and instruction card at this station.