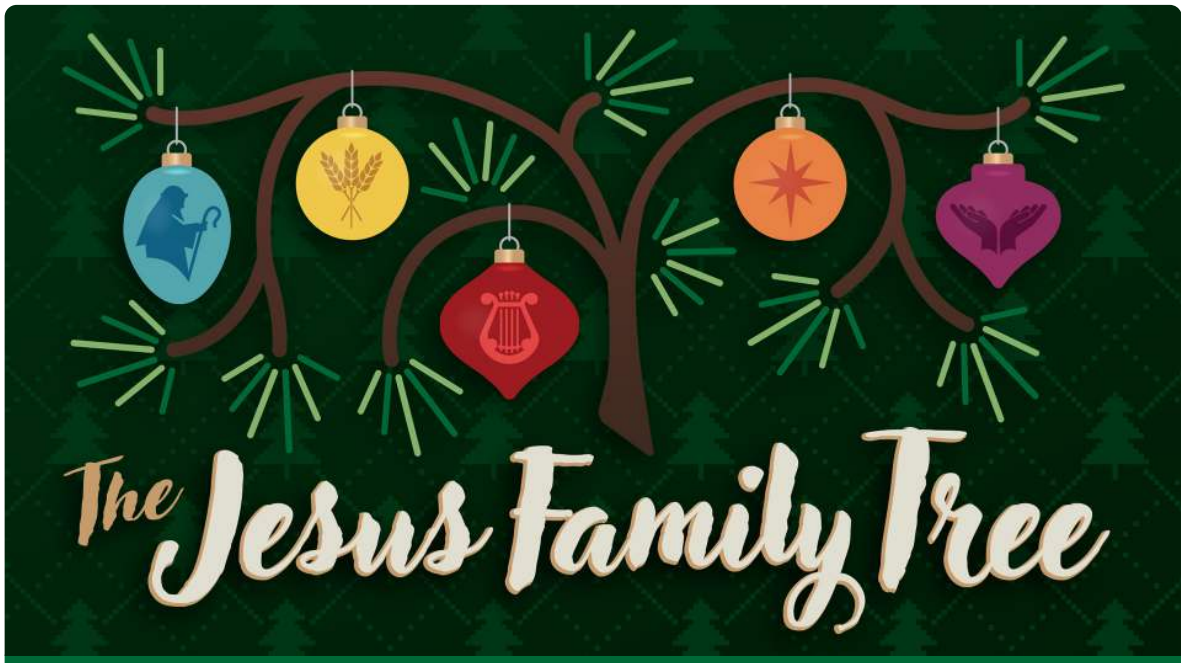


GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

These additional games and activities can be used throughout the Jesus Family Tree series. If you want to integrate more movement and facilitate more interaction in your lesson, check out these options. We've included tips to make the games and activities inclusive for all kids and have designated which games are intended for each lesson in the series.

GAME 1: WHAT'S MY NAME?

SUPPLIES: paper (1 piece per kid), marker, tape

This game works great with the Abraham lesson!

Leader Tip: Alternatively, you can give each kid the name of a well-known cartoon character and have kids guess which characters they are.

In this game, kids will be given a new name and must guess who they are by asking one another questions.

Write each kid's name on a small piece of paper. Then tape a paper with a name to each kid's back. Make sure kids don't get their own names (and don't know which name they got). Then invite the kids to go around and ask one another "yes" or "no" questions to guess whose name they have. (For example: "Do I have brown hair?" or "Am I wearing sneakers?") Play until all the kids have correctly guessed who they are.

For this game, we changed our names for fun. But today in God's big story, we're learning about how God changed Abraham and Sarah's names because He wanted their names to reflect the incredible thing He was about to do!

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GAME 2: FRIEND FOOT FRENZY

SUPPLIES: paper (1 sheet per 4 kids), rulers (optional)

This game works great with the Ruth lesson!

Leader Tip: Kids may want to remove their shoes to make the stacking easier.

Make It Inclusive: Instead of standing on one foot, have each group lower a ruler to the floor while each member keeps one finger on it. The lesson of depending on each other is the same.

In this game, kids will learn that they need to lean on each other to accomplish the goal of having the entire group stand on a sheet of paper.

Invite kids to form groups of four. Give each group a sheet of paper. Encourage them to figure out a way for everyone in the group to stand on one foot—with that foot entirely on the sheet of paper. The group that lasts the longest with everyone on the paper wins.

Kids will realize the best way is to "stack" their feet and hold each other up for support. If you have a smaller group, the kids can all play on one sheet of paper.

Have you ever had to support a friend or stick with someone during a hard time? Allow responses. **You've just demonstrated the power of supporting each other! Today in God's big story, we're learning about how Ruth left everything she knew to support her mother-in-law, Naomi. God blessed Ruth's faithfulness to her family! God celebrates and honors faithfulness.**

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GAME 3: MAKE A SHAPE

In this game, kids will work together in groups tomake shapes with their bodies.

This game works great with the Jesse and David lesson!

Put the kids into groups of 5–8. **You're going to work together to make the shapes I call out. You need to work together with the others in your group to make the shape. Every person in the group must be a part of the shape. You can lie down on the ground to make the shape or make the shape while standing or sitting. Work together and use creativity!**

Call out the following the shapes and encourage the kids to work together to make each shape using their bodies:

- Heart
- Cross
- House
- Star
- Sheep
- Tree
- Crown

Was it hard to make the shapes with your team? Allow the kids to respond. **You were each a part of the shape, but you needed your whole team to make the big picture, even if you couldn't see the full picture yourself. Each of the shapes we made are a part of our story in some way. They're the small part of the full picture. God sees it all. Today we'll learn how God sees beyond what we see in the story of David. Just like you needed a little help making the pictures today, God knows and sees everything, and He can help us see others that way too.**

Make It Inclusive: Not all kids will be able to (or want to) get that close to other kids. They can use bendable wax sticks or pipe cleaners to make the shapes on their own.

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GAME 4: HUMAN KNOT

This game works great with the Joseph and Jesus lesson!

In this game, kids will see how they can go from something messy to something that makes sense. In groups of 5–8, have kids stand in a circle with an arm's length between them. Have the first kid hold on to the loose end of the yarn and toss the yarn ball to someone else in the group. That kid should grab the yarn ball and hold on to the string as she tosses the yarn to someone else in the circle. Do this until all the kids are holding a piece of yarn in their hands. Kids will then try to undo the tangle in the middle of the circle while still holding onto the yarn. If you have multiple groups playing, announce that the first group to untangle themselves wins.

Leader Tip: This game is best played in groups no smaller than five and no larger than eight.

When your yarn was tangled up in the beginning, how hard did you think it would be to untangle it? Pause for kids to share. **Did it look way too messy to ever get undone?** Allow the kids to respond**. Today we're learning that God promised the world a Savior through a certain family. But after generations of the Messiah not appearing, the world was losing hope. However, what might look confusing and messy to us is always clear to God! God has a perfect plan.**

Make It Inclusive: Kids who aren't able to physically participate (or who don't want to hold hands with others) can make their own knot using yarn, ribbon, or pipe cleaners, and untangle it with a leader's help, if needed.

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GAME 5: POISON DART FROG

This game works great with the Simeon and Anna lesson!

In this game, kids will be looking for one special person—the poison dart frog.

Invite kids to stand in a circle and close their eyes. Quietly tap the shoulder of one kid, who will be the "poison dart frog." Have all the kids open their eyes and look around at each other. When the poison dart frog makes eye contact with someone, she should quickly flick her tongue out at them. That person will say, "I've been hit!" and sit down. She cannot say who the poison dart frog is. Every time someone gets hit, the group can guess the identity of the poison dart frog. If they guess incorrectly, the game continues. If they guess correctly, pick a new frog and play again.

That was pretty fun trying to figure out who the frog was! Everybody was looking for one special person. In our lesson today, we'll learn about two people who spent their whole entire lives looking for one special person—the Messiah!

Leader Tip: If the group is large, you can split into two groups, no smaller than five kids per group.

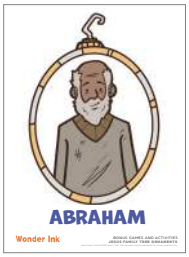
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GAME 6: JESUS FAMILY TREE RELAY

SUPPLIES: butcher paper or posterboard (1 per 4–8 kids), marker, scissors (prep only), tape, blindfolds (1 per kid, optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Jesus Family Tree Ornaments (1 set per 4–8 kids)

This game works great as a review of the Jesus Family Tree series!



In this game, kids will race to tape the ornaments with members of the Jesus Family Tree onto a paper tree.

Ahead of time, print the Jesus Family Tree Ornaments for each small group and cut out the ornaments. Tape a piece of butcher paper or posterboard to the wall for each group of 4–8 kids. Draw a simple tree on each paper using a marker. You can draw a Christmas tree shape or a tree with a trunk and branches.

Have the kids form teams of 4—8 kids and invite the kids to line up across the room from the paper trees. Give each team a set of Jesus Family Tree Ornaments and some tape. Encourage the kids to roll a small piece of tape and stick it to each ornament.

When all the ornaments have tape on them, you can start the relay race. When you say, "Go," the kids will race one at a time to the tree and tape their ornament onto the tree, then race back to tag the next teammate. To make it more challenging, kids can play the game blindfolded while a partner gives verbal instructions and watches so they don't run into anything. The first team to get all eight ornaments on the tree wins. If you have fewer than eight kids per team, some kids will go more than once.

The kids will have the following ornaments:

- Abraham
- Ruth
- Boaz
- Jesse
- David
- Joseph
- Mary
- Baby Jesus

In this series, we've learned about some of the people who make up the family tree of Jesus. God had a plan that started long before Jesus was born, and God saw the full picture. His plan is perfect. He worked through each of these people to be a part of Jesus' earthly family line to send a Savior to earth for us.

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