



My

Faith-Filled

Holidays



Memory

Book



Name



Faith-Filled
HOLIDAYS

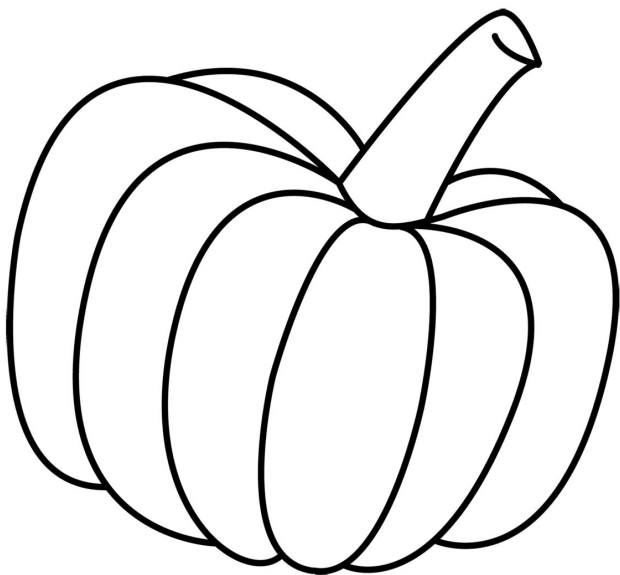
My Faith-Filled Holidays Memory Book

Holidays are a special time to celebrate by spending time with our family and remembering all the great things God has done. Included in this book are ideas for the following holidays:

Halloween
Thanksgiving
Christmas
New Year's
Valentine's
Easter

Decorate your book, take pictures and keep fun items from your holiday activities in the clear pockets. Use the stickers on the designated pages with the square box when you have completed an activity. You can also add in your own celebrations for other holidays or special occasions like birthdays, Mother's/Father's Day, Independence Day and spiritual birthdays. Get more ideas at homepointe.org/holidays

Halloween



Choose a fun holiday idea to do with your family.
Take pictures and keep any items from your
holiday activities in the clear pockets.

Turn the page to get started.
Find more ideas at homepointe.org/holidays

Halloween Activity

Pumpkin Parable

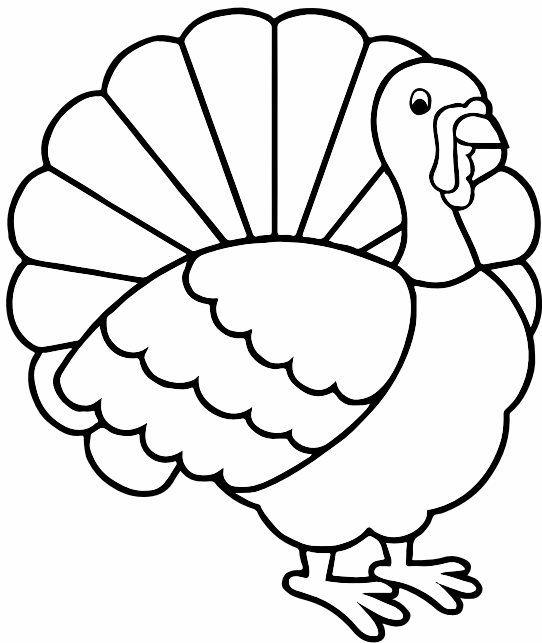
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Turn your pumpkin carving activity into a fun faith activity with these steps.

1. Help clean out the pumpkin, reaching into the open pumpkin to pull out seeds and other "gunk" that will feel yucky.
2. Read Matthew 23:25-28 and talk about how the inside "gunk" is like our sin (yucky, smelly, etc.).
3. Next, read 1 John 1:9 and Revelation 3:20. Confessing our sins enables God to take the "yuck" out of our sinful hearts.
4. Draw and carve a happy face (not a scary face) on the pumpkin. Then read 2 Corinthians 5:17 and/or Ephesians 2:10. Jesus wants to make us into a "new creation" - just as the pumpkin became a jack-o-lantern with a joy-filled face.
5. Read Matthew 5:14-16 while lighting and placing a candle in the jack-o-lantern. Turn down the lights to show how God wants to use us to shine His light.
6. Memorize the jingle together: "On a dark and scary night, we will shine Jesus' light!"

Parent Note: For younger children, please feel free to adjust the jingle to say "On Halloween night, we will shine Jesus' light."

Thanksgiving



Choose a fun holiday idea to do with your family.
Take pictures and keep any items from your
holiday activities in the clear pockets.

Turn the page to get started.
Visit the HomePointe Center to get your
Thanksgiving@Home guide.
Find more ideas like Tree of Thankfulness and a
special Thanksgiving audio story at
homepointe.org/holidays

Thanksgiving Activities

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Thanksgiving ABC'S

Play a fun game with the ABC's and thanks.

Start with saying something that you are thankful for that begins with the letter "A" and go through all the letters of the alphabet.

Have members take turns or have each person share a "thanks" for each letter. You can write down all your thanks and put them in one of the following pages.

Thanksgiving Blessing Cards

Write each person's name across the top of a card. On the back of each card have everyone write or draw about that person for which they are thankful. During dessert, gather the cards and take turns reading and blessing each person at the table to let them know why you are thankful for them. End your time together in prayer to thank God for your family.

Christmas



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Choose a fun holiday idea to do with your family.
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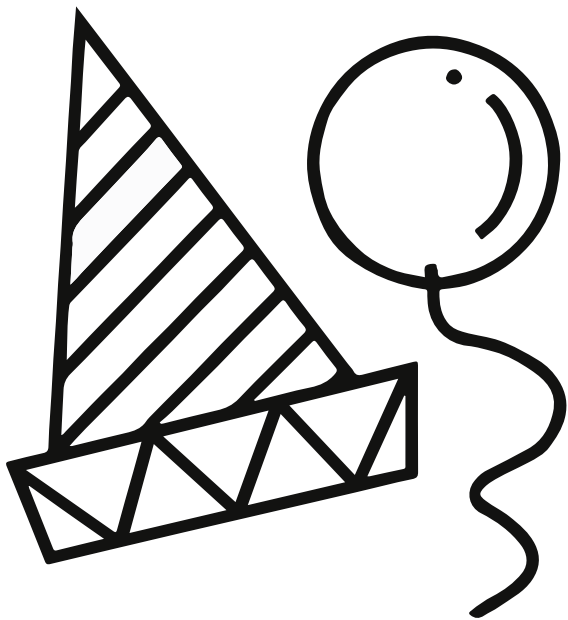
Turn the page to get started.
Visit the HomePointe Center to get your
Christmas@Home guide. Find more ideas like a
special Christmas audio story and Christmas family
movie nights at homepointe.org/holidays

Christmas Activity Gifts from the Heart

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1. Spend time together as a family talking about the meaning of Christmas while making ornaments with construction paper and ribbon.
2. During the rest of the month you will give "gifts from the heart" - gifts that money can't buy, such as Dad getting the newspaper for a sick neighbor or sister helping brother pick up his room. Each time you catch someone giving a "gift from the heart," write it on an ornament to hang on the Christmas tree.
3. On Christmas Eve, gather the ornaments and wrap them. Put a label reading: To-Jesus, Love- insert your names.
4. Before unwrapping presents, give these "gifts from the heart" to Jesus in celebration of his birthday. Open the gift to Jesus and take time to pull out each ornament and read it aloud.
5. You can have a birthday cake, donut or cupcake with a candle to sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus and thank God for giving the best "gift from the heart" on that first Christmas.

New Year's



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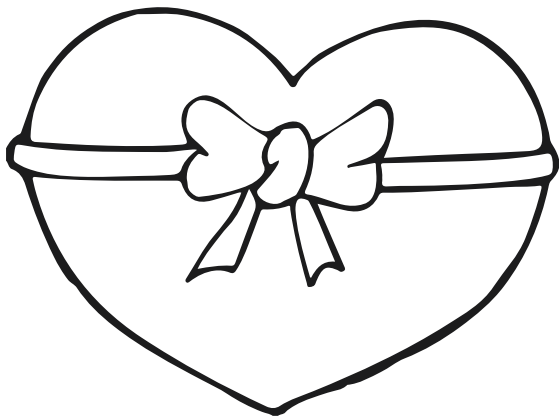
New Year's Activity

Memory Box

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1. On New Year's Eve as you wait for the clock to strike midnight, join together in some family fun! Find a box that you can decorate and use to collect items throughout the year.
2. Let everyone add a personal touch to the box. Mark the box with the year.
3. Spend some time talking about the upcoming year, what you want to do together, some things that each family member wants to accomplish and any family prayers.
4. Pray together for the upcoming year.
5. Put the box in a special place where everyone will see it.
6. All year long, fill the box with ticket stubs, photos, birthday invites, trinkets, funny quotes, etc.
7. Then, next New Year's Eve you open the box and relive the year of memories together as a family.
8. Thank God for all His many blessings and all the memories that were made together.
9. Then it is time to make a memory box for the next year.

Valentine's



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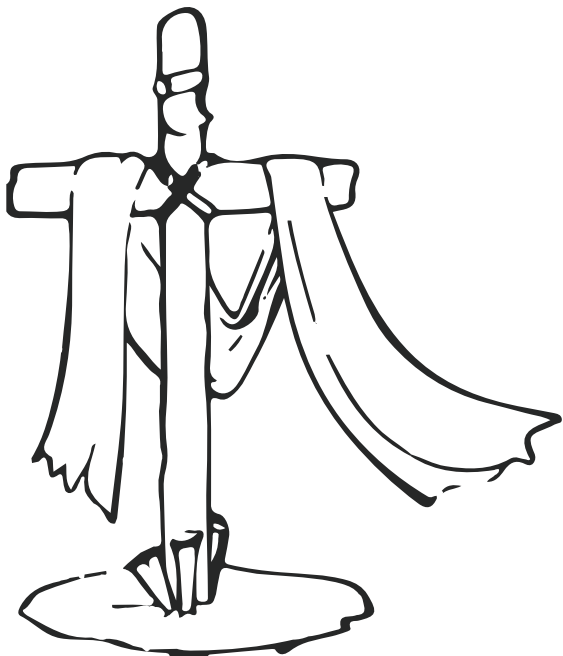
Valentine's Activity

The Love Mirror

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1. Sit about 3 feet directly across from another family member so the two are facing each other in a mirror image manner.
2. Appoint one of them the "looking in the mirror" role - meaning they will decide what movements to make - such as scratching their head, making a silly face, etc.
3. Appoint the other the "mirror on the wall" role - instructing them to act like a mirror by mimicking every move of the other.
4. Keep track of how often the "mirror" successfully reflects the actions of his or her partner - then switch roles.
5. Read I Corinthians 13 together describing the characteristics of true love. Responding well to the needs of others is one way we "mirror" the love of Christ to others.
6. Now serve dessert, but make a rule that no one can eat their dessert by themselves. They must feed one another in an unselfish fashion. Whoever becomes selfish by feeding themselves loses their dessert.
7. Finish up by creating homemade Valentine's cards for a grandparent, uncle, friend or someone to whom you want to share God's love.
8. Memorize this jingle - "Unselfish love is from above."

Easter



Choose a fun holiday idea to do with your family.
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your Easter@Home guide.
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Easter Activity

Resurrection Eggs

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Create your own resurrection eggs with empty plastic eggs numbered 1-12. Each egg should contain a symbol that prompts re-telling part of the Easter week story as follows...

EGG 1: A small leaf symbolizing a "palm branch" described in Matthew 21:1-11

EGG 2: A small cloth with perfume symbolizing the scene in John 12:2-8

EGG 3: A piece of cereal to illustrate the Last Supper described in Matthew 26:17-19

EGG 4: Three dimes to symbolize Judas betraying of Christ as described in Matthew 27:3

EGG 5: Toothpicks glued in the shape of a cross to reflect Jesus carrying His cross as described in John 19:17

EGG 6: A small thorny branch or a single thorn to show Jesus' crown as described in John 19:2

EGG 7: Small dice to show soldiers gambled for Jesus clothes as explained in John 19:23-24

EGG 8: A tiny nail or straight pin to illustrate nailing Jesus to the cross from John 19:18, 37 & John 20:25-29

EGG 9: A small bit of sponge to illustrate Matthew 27:34

EGG 10: Several whole cloves or other spices to reflect Jesus' burial as described in John 19:40

EGG 11: A small rock to illustrate the tomb covering of John 20:1

EGG 12: Empty to show "He is risen!" as seen in John 20:6-7

Store the eggs in a carton and share the story with others.

Favorite Family Holiday Memories

Write about your favorite family holiday
memories below:



Picture Time!

Draw a picture of your favorite holiday
or of your special family that
God gave you.

