

Children's Time – God With Us

Materials

A large box with a lift-off lid (for each Sunday); a picture or model of a castle, crown, and rock; an international or racial/ethnic baby doll.

Message

I wonder what is in this box.

(Lift the lid and take out all the items except for the baby)

I wonder what all these things have in common.

(Let the children wonder, and respond with non-judging comments)

I wonder what God is like. Sometimes we say that God is like a fortress, or castle, to keep us safe. Sometimes we say that God is like a rock, strong and steady. Sometimes we say that God is like a King or Queen, in charge of everything.

(Take the baby out of the box)

And in Advent and Christmas we remember that God is like a baby, too. God, who made the whole world, and is strong and powerful, came to earth as a little baby. That's surprising. That's like if you have a toy that your friends really wants, a cool, new toy that you just got, and you just give it away. That's like if you have a lot of friends, and you find someone who is alone, and go over to be their friend.

God gave up power and safety and strength and came to be just like one of us, beginning as a little baby. But you know what else? God also made sure that that baby, Jesus, had a family to take care of him. And we, too, can help take care of those who need our help, just like Mary and Joseph took care of Jesus and moms and dads take care of us.

Before you go, let's bow our heads and pray. God, thank you for surprising us with your love. Thank you for coming to us as a baby. We want to take care of people, just like your family took good care of you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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