

# A YEAR OF GOD'S LOVE

## instructions for parents

Dear parents,

While children naturally live in the rhythms of the school calendar year, January still feels like a good time to offer our children room for reflection in a year that has been so unconventional (and likely difficult) for them, as well as provide them an opportunity to remember how God is present with them in every circumstance. We hope you will invite them to take just ten or fifteen minutes to reflect on the following questions.

Depending on the age(s) of your child(ren), you may want to engage these questions more like a conversation. Give them room to share their feelings, and let them know God can handle whatever those are. God's love is bigger! And God is with us when things feel hard.

If your child is older, you can offer a quiet spot for them to journal on their own...and help them find ribbon around the house! If they're open to it, perhaps you can offer your own thoughts on how they can practice showing God's love this year.

We hope these reflections will help your child both feel God's love, and feel empowered to live faithfully in response to it.

# A YEAR OF GOD'S LOVE

God is always with us. Sometimes we forget or we don't notice it, so it helps for us to think about our year and remember that God is with us everywhere and always.

What were your favorite things about this year?

Can you give God thanks for these?

What was hard about this year?

Did you know God was with you and loves you during the hard times too?

There are so many ways we can show God's love. What one thing can you practice this year to show God's love? Can you be more kind? More patient?

Now, go find a ribbon or string around your house- one you really like to look at. Find a place you can put the ribbon where you will see it every day. This ribbon can remind you that God loves you SO much, and it can also remind you that you can show that love to others, too. Where will you put it?

Dear God, thank you for loving us so much. Thank you for being with us even when things are hard, and for celebrating with us when things are good. Help me this year to be more like Jesus.

Help me to show your love by \_\_\_\_\_.

Let this ribbon remind me of your love every day. Amen.