

FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

He will judge between the nations
and will settle disputes for many peoples.
They will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not take up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war anymore.

Come, descendants of Jacob,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Isaiah 2:4-5

ACTIVITY: The Great Recycling

Depending on the age and stage of your household you could play the drama game 'unusual uses'. Take random objects and come up with alternative uses for them e.g: the deodorant bottle becomes a microphone, a malfunctioning light saber becomes a giant cake knife... etc)

OR – make a creative piece of recycling together – turn a milk bottle into a simple watering can by punching nail holes in the lid.

**Other ideas can be found online and at sites like pinterest.*

READ

Isaiah 2:1-5 or paraphrase the essential elements from it for your tamariki.

God's instructions and teaching include resolution to conflict, restitution, justice, peace between people, co-operation, and invitation to walk in God's ways.

DISCUSS

What are swords used for? What are plowshares used for? (That could be an interesting piece of exploration but plowshares could be substituted for garden forks or spades). If swords were being turned into farming instruments what would that say about how people are living together? What would a world without fighting look like? What about a city/school/community/home?

These verses come from an ancient vision for God's long term plan for the world. The work of Jesus invites us to be people of peace, people who co-operate with others, people who live together in God's light and love.

PRAY

God, help us to live in your ways and to be people who bring peace and restoration to the world.

