

# SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;  
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.  
The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and of might,  
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—  
and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

*Isaiah 11:1-3a*

## ACTIVITY: The Beautiful Big Picture

Explore the idea of a Jesse Tree – this could involve making symbolic ornaments, or downloading and colouring in a printable set of baubles, or you could read through the promises concerning the Messiah (from right back in Genesis when God promises that from the seed of the woman a person will come who will crush the serpent's head) and draw pictures of those to link how Jesus fits inside the promises of the Old Testament. There are many examples and free printables available online.

## READ

Isaiah 11:1-10

## DISCUSS

The Bible is a bit like a jigsaw puzzle. Sometimes it feels very complicated to fit together and other times the pieces are easy to match. What is interesting is that when a puzzle is finished it is easy to see the whole picture. All the way through the Old Testament, God makes promises about a coming Saviour. When Jesus arrived people were confused. He wasn't the piece of the puzzle they were expecting and yet when they realised he was, the whole picture began to make sense. The prophet Isaiah describes the kind of person Jesus will be. Think about some of the stories of Jesus. Where and how do you see Jesus showing those characteristics?

## PRAY

***Thank you, Jesus, that you are wise and faithful and you can even bring peace between a lion and a lamb. Be with us today in the things we do and say in our families and communities.***