

DECEMBER 8 TO DECEMBER 14

Hope

Who kept my hope alive this year?

Hope only lives where the good might not happen, and where you have a part to play.

This week adds a second layer. Hope is a want that walks, and this week looks at the people who kept walking beside you while you waited.

The week in one breath

December 8 to 10, you receive. Each day ends with an ornament: gold or yellow for each other person at home, red for someone outside it, white for what came from beyond anyone's grip.

December 11, you celebrate. The second candle is lit from the first, and everyone reads the gold ornaments with their own name on them.

December 12 to 14, you give: time, then resources, then words.

Three pages this week: the ornaments you write, the celebration and your Plan, and what you gave.

Ornaments I Wrote

Write each ornament on paper first, the way the Guide shows, then jot it here in a few words. The gold ones hang on the tree, writing to the wall, until the Opening on December 11. After that, they belong to the people they name.

December 8 • Core • gold or yellow

Who in this house helped me keep going toward something I wanted?

To _____ I thanked them for _____

To _____ I thanked them for _____

To _____ I thanked them for _____

To _____ I thanked them for _____

Kids said ("What's something you really wanted this year that you had to wait for? Did you do anything while you waited?")

December 9 • Community • red

Who outside this house helped me keep walking this year?

To _____ I thanked them for _____

To _____ I thanked them for _____

To _____ I thanked them for _____

Kids said ("Which door would you have picked first? Why did Pilgrim keep ending up back in the same room?")

December 10 • Cosmos • white

What gave me a reason to hope this year that no one arranged?

To _____ I thanked it for _____

To _____ I thanked it for _____

Kids said ("Has something good ever happened that you didn't plan and couldn't make happen?")

Getting ready for December 11

- ☐ Set out the Generosity candle, a second candle for Hope, and the lighter.
 - ☐ Find a pen, and read the Guide's Day 4 (page 158) once ahead of time. Tomorrow's Plan goes on the next page of this book.
 - ☐ Optional: pick a route if you'd like to go see Christmas lights tomorrow night.
- If something isn't ready, the night still works.