



Lent BINGO!

Welcome to LENT BINGO! To get started on this awesome experience, gather your family together and read through the following directions and explanation.

Lent is a season in the church calendar where Christians take time to focus on Jesus by “**letting go**” and “**laying hold**”. Letting go of various comforts like free time, money, food or technology allows us to turn our attention away from ourselves and on to God and others. Laying hold is then a way to use the space created from letting go to enjoy more of God in our lives.

The LENT BINGO Card we’ve created has a mix of ways to let go and lay hold. Our challenge to each kid/student participating is to try and get at least one BINGO every week of LENT (which is about 6 weeks). For Early Childhood, kids can repeat activities after they’ve done them all since there aren’t as many. For Elementary and Middle School, you wouldn’t have to repeat any until the last week when you might want to go back and do 5 of your favorites, or you could also start with a diagonal BINGO and then just do 4 each week. We’ve provided stickers to mark things off as you go.

Then, each time you get BINGO, our next challenge to your whole family is to come up with ways to celebrate. Here’s some celebration ideas to consider, the first three of which we’ve provided resources to help you make happen:



1. Go out to breakfast at Chick-fil-A! We’ve provided free breakfast biscuit coupons for the Woburn Chick-fi-A so head on up there and enjoy! And be sure to say thank you for their kind donation to support our Lent Family Boxes! (If you’re an out-of-town box participant, we apologize that you probably can’t make it to Woburn, MA to use the coupon (and we therefore didn’t include one), but we still recommend doing a breakfast date as a great way to celebrate a BINGO!)

2. Play the Glow Stick Glasses Game. Get the bag with the glow stick glasses supplies in your Lent BINGO bag. Assemble ONE of the pairs of glasses and give them to a family member who wants to be “It”. Give the unassembled second pair to “It” and while everyone else stays in one room, have “It” hide the five pieces around the house (it may be easier to keep the nose and ear pieces in the bag and hide them together). Once “It” has hidden everything, turn off as many lights as people are comfortable with and have “It” count to 20 while everyone else begins searching for the glasses pieces. Once “It” is done counting, “It” can then start going around tagging anyone “It” finds and making them do something silly (sing a song, jump up and down, do a dance - should take 30 seconds max). “It” must watch the silly performance and can only tag one person at a time. Once the other family members have found all the pieces they can assemble the second pair of glasses and put them on someone who now becomes “The It Stopper”. “The It Stopper” can go tag “It” and end the game by making “It” do something silly. Play multiple rounds and have fun!





3. Create a Family Fun Restaurant Experience. Use the menu and “prices” included in the Lent BINGO bag or found on the Lent Box website. Plan out a meal with the various types of food on the menu and enjoy a dinner unlike any other!



4. Bonus Video Game Time. Get an extra 30 minutes of video game/computer game time with a parent/guardian joining in for at least half of it.



5. Undivided Attention. Get at least 20-30 minutes of undivided attention from a parent/guardian to do whatever activity you choose.



6. Pick 2. Pick 2 special treats you’d like from the grocery store, and then eat at least one of them while playing a favorite game with your family.

We suggest 6 ideas because there are about 6 weeks in Lent. Sundays are typically the day of celebration when fasting ceases, but you can choose any day that works for your family. The goal in all of this is to draw closer to God and others so try not to just check things off to get to the celebration. Enjoy each part of it as an opportunity to get to know Jesus and make Him more a part of your life. And feel free to create your own ideas to replace/alter the ones we’ve made both on the card and with the celebrations. And if you really like an idea, you can absolutely repeat it multiple times as well.

Let’s join with Paul when he says,

“I want to know Christ better. Yes, I want to know the power that raised him for the dead. I want to join him in his sufferings. I want to become like him by sharing in his death. Then by God’s grace I will rise from the dead.”

Philippians 3:10-11 NIV