

The background is a vertical wooden plank texture. In the top-left, top-right, and bottom-right corners, there are sprigs of green, feathery foliage, possibly cedar or a similar evergreen, framing the central text area.

HOLIDAYS AT HOME

Family Pack

THANKSGIVING • ADVENT • CHRISTMAS

Growfamily™

ABOUT THE *Family Pack*

Celebrate at home with your family throughout three holidays with activities surrounding a single tree you create.

THANKSGIVING

Add colored leaves to your tree branches as you consider everything your family has to give thanks for.

ADVENT

Place the dated cards on your branches. Read through verses of the Christmas story each day of Advent. As a family, take time to reflect on the scripture or complete activities mixed throughout.

CHRISTMAS

Place ornaments on the branches with gifts you can give God through the new year. Consider ways your family can serve, obey, give, love, trust, and more!

HELPFUL TIPS

- If your family will be using the tree for all three holidays, it's a good idea to print and prepare all at one time.
- You'll be using your tree throughout three holidays. Place it somewhere you can always see it to remember what the season is teaching you, but somewhere where it won't be in the way of your celebrations.
- Adjust any activities using your own ideas and creativity!



TREE FOR

Thanksgiving

Spend time giving thanks as a family at home this holiday!

SUPPLIES:

- ☐ Small tree branches - find a few in your yard or purchase from a craft supply store
- ☐ Heavy paper or cardstock in red, orange, yellow, and brown, or 4 fall colors you choose
- OR
- ☐ Markers or Crayons - in fall colors of red, orange, yellow, and brown, or 4 fall colors you choose
- ☐ Leaf Template
- ☐ Tape, twine, string, or ribbon

CREATE:

Place your branches in a vase or decorative container. Secure with floral foam or decorations such as pinecones or pebbles.

Create your leaves using the templates attached. Print them on the fall colored paper OR use white paper to color your own unique leaves! Don't want to cut out leaf edges? Simply cut around the circles or use 2-inch oval and round craft punches.

Punch a hole in each leaf to string and tie ribbon to hang with.

ALTERNATE LEAF OPTION: Trace little hands on colored paper and cut out to create leaves. (continued on next page)

TREE FOR

Thanksgiving



FILL YOUR TREE

Point out the tree and ask, “what do you notice about this tree?”

Explain that the tree has no leaves to it, and without them, it looks sad and lonely. Share that your family will work together to add leaves to the tree .

Ask if anyone knows what the word “gratitude” means - it means to be thankful for the things and the people in our lives. As we add our leaves to the tree, we are going to write the things that we are thankful for on them to help turn it into our Thanksgiving Gratitude Tree.

You can fill your tree all at once, or you can fill with one color leaf each day the week of Thanksgiving!

RED LEAVES



Red will represent the **people** that we are thankful for - our families, our friends, our classmates, and others! Take a moment to write down all of

the names on your red leaves or with your red marker - if you have young children who can't write, have them draw a picture or help with the names. When everyone is done, hang up your red leaves - spread them out so you have plenty of room between them for other colors!

BROWN LEAVES



Brown is going to be the color that represents the **places** that we are thankful for - our favorite vacation spot, a grandparents house,

our bedroom, the playground at school, or the park! Take a moment to write down all of the things on your brown leaves or with your brown marker - if you have young children, draw pictures instead! When everyone is done, hang up your brown leaves.

YELLOW LEAVES

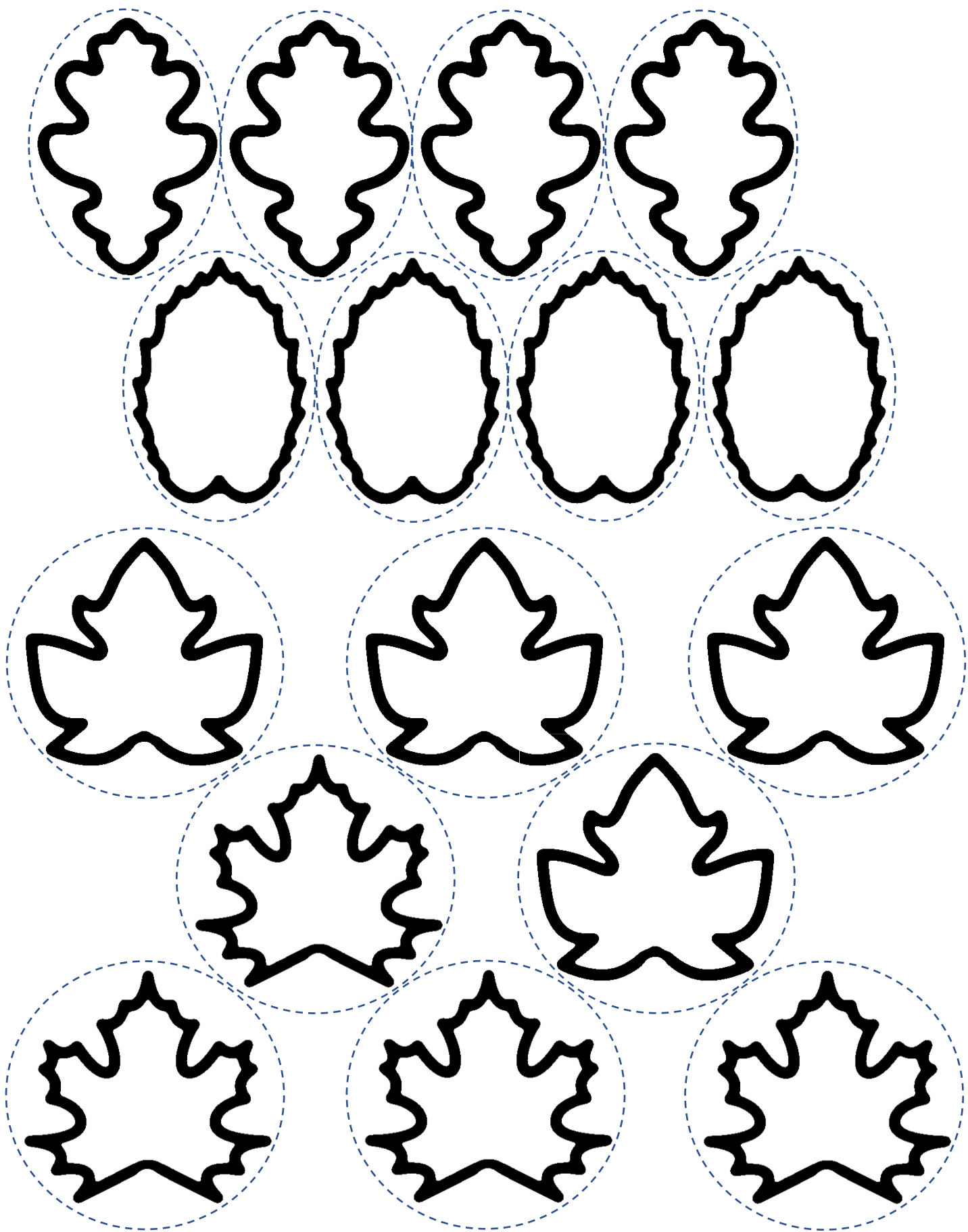


Yellow will represent the **things** that we are thankful for - our toys, books, clothes, house, and even food! Take a moment to write down all of the things on your yellow leaves or with your yellow marker - if you have young children, draw pictures instead! When everyone is done, hang up your yellow leaves.

ORANGE LEAVES



Orange is going to be the color that represents the things that we are thankful for about **Jesus** - that we can always talk to Him in prayer, that He loves us, that He's always with us, or even your favorite Bible story! Take a moment to write down all of the things on your orange leaves or with your orange marker - if you have young children, draw pictures instead! When everyone is done, hang up your orange leaves.





TREE FOR

Advent

Throughout Advent, prepare for Jesus' coming by taking time each day to read part of the story of His birth.

SUPPLIES:

- ☐ Your Holiday Tree - this should still be up from Thanksgiving, otherwise, create one from the Thanksgiving supplies page
- ☐ Heavy paper or cardstock
- ☐ Advent Cards – print the 2-sided colored cards **OR** print the black and white cards 2-sided and color with markers, crayons, or colored pencils to create your own unique set
- ☐ Tape, twine, string, or ribbon

CREATE:

Freshen up your tree! Make sure that it's in good shape, repairing or replace any pieces as needed.

Clear off any thanksgiving leaves so that you have a bare tree.

Print the 2-sided Advent cards and cut them out.

Color your cards, if you choose the black and white .
Punch a small hole in each card, then string through the ribbon and knot.

Fill your tree with the numbered Advent cards.

Each day during Advent, with your family, find the card that corresponds to the date. Pull it off the tree, read the Bible verse or complete the activity for the day.



Isaiah 9:6

A child will be born to us.
A son will be given to us.
He will rule over us.
And he will be called
Wonderful Adviser and Mighty
God. He will also be called
Father Who Lives Forever
and Prince Who Brings Peace.

Activity

All things were made through God!
Look outside and think about all of
creation. From the smell of the
grass to leaves changing,
snowflakes falling and birds singing,
what amazes you about all that
God made? Write or draw a list of
everything you can think of!

John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God
and the Word was God. He was in the
beginning with God. All things were
made through him, and without him
was not any thing made that was
made. In him was life, and the life was
the light of men. The light shines in the
darkness, and the darkness has not
overcome it.

Luke 2:4

So Joseph went also. He went
from the town of Nazareth in
Galilee to Judea. That is where
Bethlehem, the town of David,
was. Joseph went there because
he belonged to the family line of
David.

Luke 2:1-3

In those days, Caesar Augustus
made a law. It required that a list
be made of everyone in the whole
Roman world. It was the first time
a list was made of the people
while Quirinius was governor of
Syria. Everyone went to their own
town to be listed.

Isaiah 9:7

There will be no limit to how great his
authority is. The peace he brings will
never end. He will rule on David's
throne and over his kingdom.
He will make the kingdom strong and
secure. His rule will be based on what is
fair and right. It will last forever.
The Lord's great love will make sure
that happens. He rules over all.

Luke 2:6

While Joseph and Mary were
there, the time came for the child
to be born.

Activity

Nazareth and Bethlehem are about 90
miles apart. That's a long trip on foot -
there were no cars or planes!
Bethlehem is where Joseph's family
was from. If you had to take a trip to
the place your parents are from, how
many miles would you travel? Look it
up on a map with your family to find
your answer!

Luke 2:5

He went there with Mary to be
listed. Mary was engaged to him.
She was expecting a baby.

Luke 2:9

An angel of the Lord appeared to
them. And the glory of the Lord
shone around them. They were
terrified.

Luke 2:8

There were shepherds living out
in the fields nearby. It was night,
and they were taking care of
their sheep.

Luke 2:7

She gave birth to her first baby. It
was a boy. She wrapped him in
large strips of cloth. Then she
placed him in a manger. That's
because there was no guest
room where they could stay.



Luke 2:12

Here is how you will know I am telling you the truth. You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger.”

Luke 2:11

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord.

Luke 2:10

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news. It will bring great joy for all the people.

Luke 2:15

The angels left and went into heaven. Then the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem. Let’s see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

Activity

What do you think it would have sounded like to hear angels praising God and telling this good news? Take the words that the shepherds were told (look up Luke 2:14) and add your own words to make it a song or poem!

Luke 2:13-14

Suddenly a large group of angels from heaven also appeared. They were praising God. They said,

“May glory be given to God in the highest heaven!
And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!”

Luke 2:18

All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

Luke 2:17

After the shepherds had seen him, they told everyone. They reported what the angel had said about this child.

Luke 2:16

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the baby. The baby was lying in the manger.

Luke 2:20

The shepherds returned. They gave glory and praise to God. Everything they had seen and heard was just as they had been told.

Activity

Mary didn’t want to forget the amazing things God had done. What has God done for you that you always want to remember? Share these treasures with your family!

Luke 2:19

But Mary kept all these things like a secret treasure in her heart. She thought about them over and over.

December

23

December

24

Activity

The name Jesus means
"to deliver, to rescue."

This is a very important name because of what Jesus has done for us! Look up what your name means with your family, and talk about what you can do to live out its meaning like Jesus lived out His name.

Luke 2:21

When the child was eight days old, he was circumcised. At the same time he was named Jesus. This was the name the angel had given him before his mother became pregnant.

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NOVEMBER
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he was circumcised. At the same
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the name the angel had given him
before his mother became
pregnant.



TREE FOR

Christmas

Consider what gifts your family can give God this year.

SUPPLIES:

- ☐ Your Holiday Tree - still up from Advent
- ☐ Heavy paper or cardstock (White or colored)
- ☐ Gift Cards template
- ☐ Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- ☐ Tape, twine, string, or ribbon

CREATE:

Print the gift card ornaments using the templates attached.

Color or decorate the front of the ornaments you choose to use for your tree or print on colored paper. If you don't want to cut around the ornament hangers, simply cut around the circles, or use 2-inch craft punches.

Punch a hole at the top of each ornament, then string through the ribbon and knot.

TREE FOR

Christmas

FILL YOUR TREE

Explain how you have been talking the last month about the many wonderful gifts that God has given. Reflect on the gifts you've received from others this Christmas.

Ask your family to think about gifts they can give to God in the coming year. The ornaments have one-word prompts to get you thinking! Use these prompts or write your own ideas.

Have each family member write or draw on the back of each ornament what gift(s) they want to give.

Word prompt examples:

- What ways can I **SERVE** God this year?
- What can I **GIVE** God this year?
- How can I **OBEY** God this year?
- How can I **TRUST** God this year?
- How can I **HONOR** God this year?

Hang the ornaments on the branches.

If you'd like, refresh your tree for the new year and keep it up as a reminder of the gifts you've committed.





Give

Love

Obey

Serve

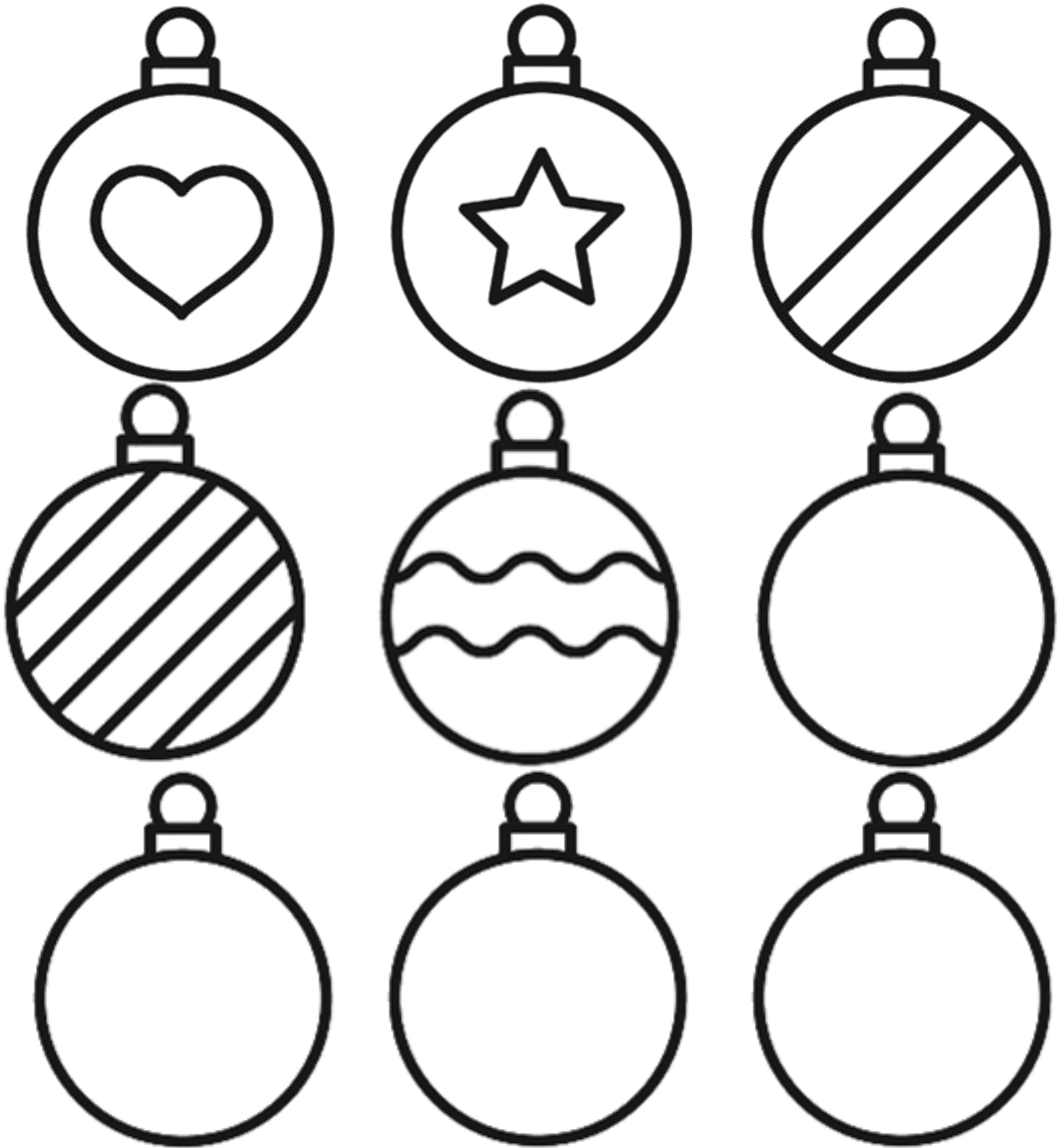
Honor

Trust

Give

Love

Obey



GIFT ORNAMENTS TEMPLATE FRONT 2

Serve

Honor

Trust

Give

Love

Obey

Serve

Honor

Trust



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