

# The Branch from Jesse

*Isaiah 11:1-11*

In Isaiah there is a prophecy about a man who will be descended from Jesse who was King David's dad. This is some of the prophecy:



*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.*

Isaiah 11:1-2

Jesus fulfilled this prophecy. He was the awaited Messiah, the one who brought hope to Israel. This is why we have a Jesse Tree – to remember the Bible stories that lead us to Jesus, the person that we celebrate at Christmas.

Every day there will be a decoration to make for your Jesse Tree, and maybe some other activities. But you choose what you want to do – you don't have to do them all.

## 1. So today's first task is to find a tree!

This is going to be what you'll hang all your other decorations on, so it can't be too little – but you don't want it too big. You'll be making about 25 or 26 decorations – one every day until Christmas.

Decide where you are going to put your Jesse Tree – will it be inside or outside? If you decide to put it outside other people in your street can enjoy it too.

What are you going to use for the tree? You could use a tree or bush already in the garden or a twiggly branch that you make very secure in the ground or a pot. Or have you got an old Christmas tree. Or you could draw or make a tree.

You might want to put lights on your tree. Finally display your tree in a prominent place.

## 2. Look around the garden, or the park, or the roadside, for a new shoot.

If you are allowed to, take it inside and put it in water and watch it grow. Or plant a seed and watch it grow – use some soil from outside and an apple or orange pip if you haven't anything else.

## 3. Draw and colour a new plant poking through the ground.

## 4. List as many carols as you can that mention that Jesus was “David's son” or born in “David's town” or something like that.

The Bible also tells us that the messiah would be descended from David, as well as Jesse, and born in Bethlehem where David was also born. (See Jeremiah 23:5-6)

## 5. Learn Isaiah 11:1-2 as our memory verse.