

November

# All Saints – Either Hebrews 12:1-2 or Revelation 7:9-17



## Meal

As you sit down around the table together, you may want to light a candle as a reminder that Christ is with you. Someone offer a prayer of blessing for the meal and your time together. As you eat, use this time to enjoy one another's company. You may ask one another to share where they have seen God at work this month or one thing each person is grateful for. Do remember to make sure everyone is included in the conversation!



## Rule of Life

Each month, choose one part of your Rule of Life to discuss together. Share your joys in following the Rule and any challenges you may have faced. You can do this during the meal, if you'd like, but do not neglect this step! The Rule of Life is an important part of holding your group together and keeping on track.



## Explore and Play Together

Read the month's key Bible story aloud one time.

What did you notice in the story? Explore the story. What story comes before this one? What story comes after? Who are the characters? What are they doing? Where is God in this story? What is God doing?

Play together: Pick one of the activities to do together or make up your own activity! Tell a story. Draw or paint a picture. Get creative! Make sure your activity involves everyone in your group.

After you've finished your activity, read the Bible story another time. How did the activity help you think about the story in a new way? What do you wonder about this story? Where do you see yourself in this story?



## Serve

What will you do to serve God, to serve each other, to serve your neighbors this month? Before you close your time together, make a plan on how your group will serve this month.



## Pray

Close your time together by praying together. Your group may take turns praying. You may consider writing a prayer together for your Companion group that you can use each month. (Don't spend too much time with specific requests...this can quickly get your group off track.)

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A note about this month:

Don't forget! November 3 is the Fall Festival. Consider doing trunks and/or activities together as a Companion group.

We celebrate All Saints Day in November (the first Sunday of November). In some traditions, people celebrate All Saints (Celebrating actual saints, the day after Halloween) and then All Souls (so everybody else! The next day). In your Companion group this month, it's a good time to celebrate all of those who have influenced our faith throughout our history.

If you choose the Hebrews passage, you might want to include Hebrews 11:8-40 with the list of those included in the "great cloud of witnesses." But don't be afraid of the Revelation passage! It's a great image of people from all over the world worshiping together.

## Potential Activities for This Month:

If you focus on the "cloud of witnesses" and "Saints" theme this month, you might consider:

- Make a Facebook page or Twitter account for a saint. Use a template (<http://aumcsc.org/companion-groups-at-aldersgate/>) and then do some research on a few saints. Imagine how that saint might use social media today
- Get ready for Advent by making a Jesse Tree. A Jesse Tree includes people from our story leading up to Jesus' birth. You make one ornament per day from the start of Advent through Christmas Day. Here's one link with more about the Jesse Tree. There are links to ornament templates on the Companion Group webpage (see link above). <http://www.crivoice.org/jesse.html>

If you focus on the Revelation passage, you might concentrate on worship.

- Find videos on YouTube of people worshiping in other parts of the world. Talk about what's similar and what's different from what we do in worship.
- Make praise "instruments" like these: <https://www.catholicicing.com/make-a-joyful-noise-to-the-lord-bible-craft-for-kids/>

For either Scripture passage, you could draw/paint a picture of the Bible verse (what cloud a "cloud of witnesses" look like or what would John's revelation look like). Consider using one big piece of paper and working on one picture together. You could also use Legos or playdough to build the scene.