

Thumbprint Cards

Small, homemade cards shared during Advent spreads the hope, joy and love we receive in God's grace. It is also a powerful tool to share peace with those we know well or not at all. While making these easy cards for friends and relatives, consider making half a dozen more. Challenge other families and small groups to do the same. Collect them and drop them off at assisted living centers, visiting nurse associations, VA hospitals, USO locations, etc.

Here is what you will need:

- 3 x 5 index cards
- scrapbook paper in multiple colors and prints, cut into 4 x 6 rectangles
- glue sticks or double-stick tape
- a black ink pad
- felt tip markers
- 4 x 6 envelopes (optional)
- address labels, printed with your favorite Bible verses (optional)
- copy of sample page of thumbprint design ideas

Assemble the cards by gluing or taping an index card (blank side up) onto a 4 x 6 piece of scrapbook paper.

Adhere an address label printed with your favorite Bible verse to the card. An alternative would be to print by hand, the verse along the top or bottom of the card.

Using a black ink pad, press a thumb onto the pad and then press firmly onto the center of card.

After the print is dry, use a felt tip marker to add features to your design. Sign the card in the bottom corner and date it.

Stumped on which verse to use? Here are some to choose from:

"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

"The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace." Numbers 6:26

"But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace." Psalm 37:11

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Romans 15:13

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24

These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. John 15:11

Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his place. 1 Chronicles 16:27

Rejoice always. 1 Thessalonians 5:16

The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him. Psalm 28:7

