



3. Micah's Promise

Throughout history, God continued to remind his people about his promise. It was such an amazing promise – it's strange to think that people would forget about it... but they did. They often forgot about what God had told them. Sometimes they even chose to ignore it.

God chose special people called prophets to go and speak to the people. These men would remind them of the things that God had said. They would warn the people about sin and tell them that it displeased God. And then they would try to encourage the people by telling them again and again that God loved them, and that he wanted to forgive them. Several times God would give the prophets a special message called a prophecy. The prophets would hear God telling them about something that would happen in the future. One of the prophets, Micah, was told that the promised Saviour would be born in a little town called Bethlehem. 'But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.' (Micah 5:2) These messages and prophecies were written down so that the people could read them for themselves.



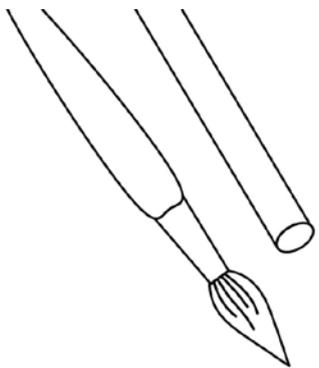
4. Isaiah's Promise

The prophet Isaiah also received a special message from God. This prophecy was about how the promised Saviour would be born – just like you and me, but that one thing would be very different.

The promised Saviour would be born to a virgin. What does this mean? Well, it meant that the mother of the promised Saviour would not have a husband. Mary, the young girl who became the mother of the promised Saviour, Jesus, had never been married. She had never done anything that would have made a baby inside her – but God performed a miracle. His power overshadowed her, and the Son of God became a little bunch of cells, a human life inside the womb of a young Jewish girl. God became man. Mary's baby son was called Jesus. He was like no one else. Jesus is both God and man.

Look It Up:
Isaiah 7:14





Bake Claydough Decorations

YOU WILL NEED:

- *200 g (7 oz) plain white flour
- *2 tbs salt
- *100 ml (3.3 fl oz) cold water
- *Large mixing bowl
- *Wooden spoon
- *Plastic bag



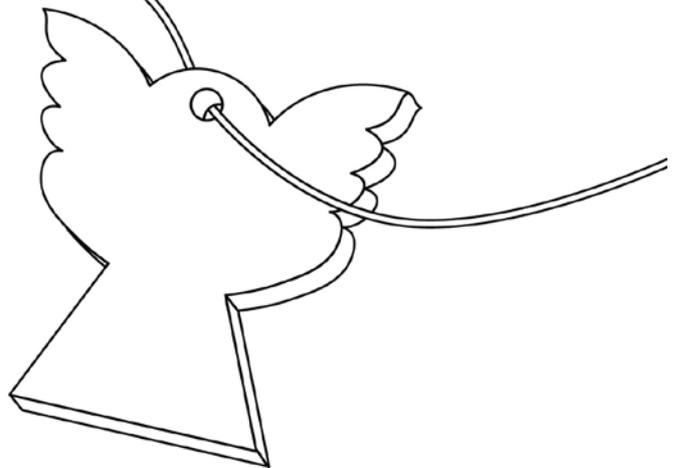
INSTRUCTIONS

Put the flour and salt in the large bowl.
Add the water, mixing thoroughly.
Knead into a soft ball.
Use straight away or keep in a plastic bag.

TO MAKE THE DECORATIONS

YOU WILL ALSO NEED:

A rolling pin, A baking tray, Biscuit cutters,
A drinking straw, Paints and pens,
Narrow ribbon or wool



1. Set your oven to a cool 110 degrees Celsius (Gas Mark 1/4; 225 degrees Fahrenheit).
2. Make the claydough. Roll it out to 5 mm (0.2 inches) thick.
3. Cut out some shapes with cutters.
4. Press out a hole in the top of each shape with the end of a drinking straw.
5. Place them on a baking tray and bake for 3 or 4 hours, until they are hard.
6. Decorate your shapes with felt tip pens, poster or acrylic paints. You could varnish the shapes when they are dry for a shiny, durable look.
7. Thread the ribbon or wool through the hole and hang them on the Christmas tree.

