

Thought for the day – Monday 30th January 2023

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Christingle



Our Christingles should end up looking like the picture above!

1. Take an Orange. The orange represents the world that God has created in love and all that is in it.
2. Unwrap the four cocktail sticks and the sweets and insert the sweets, carefully into the four cocktail sticks. Be careful as the cocktail sticks can be sharp. The sweets represent the fruit of the earth, the food and four seasons and the good things God has given to all of us.
3. However, we know that something has gone wrong.
4. Make a cut at the top of the orange about 2 cm in length. You may need to have a kitchen towel under the orange incase the juice spills out! This first cut represents all that has gone wrong, the sins of the world and the consequences of that, the infection that is hunger, pain, poverty, climate change, isolation, guilt, etc, and ultimately death.
5. But, God loves the world so much, that He gave His Son...make another cut, in the opposite direction to the first cut , making the shape of the cross. This represents the coming of Christ into the world, to counter-infect it with a force stronger than death, which is love.

6. Then take the ribbon and wrap it around the Orange, perhaps sticking it with some sellotape. This represents the blood of Jesus, shed on the cross. Jesus willingly went to the cross, He was no victim. On the cross, He took the sins of the world onto himself and in exchange He gave us what He had - His Light, Life and Love.
7. Place the piece of foil on top of the cut shaped cross.
8. Then insert the candle, through the foil and the cuts into the Orange until its stable.
9. Then light the candle. The lit candle represents Jesus rising from the dead and shining as a Light in the world today. He was very confident that He would do this before hand.
10. The lit Christingle symbolises that any one who follows Jesus, becomes part of this candle. The light of Christ shines in them and through them to others. Forever.

Can we pause for a moment to reflect on God's love for us, and how we can show love and care for someone practically today?