# 2024 ADVENT DEVOTION

#### 12-2-24

## Day 1: Preparation of the Heart

Scripture: Matthew 3:1-3

Devotion: Advent is a time of preparation. Just as John the Baptist called people to prepare the way for Jesus, we are called to prepare our hearts to welcome Christ anew. Let us reflect on what is in our hearts and how we can clear a path for Christ to enter more deeply into our lives. Self-Examination:

- 1. What areas of my life do I need to prepare for Christ's arrival?
- 2. What distractions are keeping me from focusing on Christ?
- 3. How can I actively prepare my heart in this Advent season?

*Prayer:* Lord, help me to make space for You in my heart. Clear away the distractions and fill me with Your peace. Amen.

#### 12-3-24

#### Day 2: Hope in Christ

Scripture: Isaiah 9:6

*Devotion:* The prophecy of the coming Messiah gives us hope. In a world often filled with despair, Jesus is our hope. We look forward to His coming, and in that anticipation, we can live in hope today.

Self-Examination:

- 1. In what areas of my life do I need to renew my hope?
- 2. How does Christ bring hope to my daily challenges?
- 3. What can I do to share the hope of Christ with others?

*Prayer:* Jesus, You are the hope of the world. Help me to trust in You and live with hope as I wait for Your return. Amen.

#### 12-4-24

#### Day 3: Peace in the Promise

Scripture: Philippians 4:6-7

*Devotion:* Advent is a time to reflect on the peace that Christ brings. Even in the midst of busy preparations, we can experience peace through prayer and trust in God's provision. *Self-Examination:* 

- 1. Do I experience God's peace in my daily life?
- 2. What anxieties or worries am I holding on to that I need to surrender to God?
- 3. How can I intentionally create peace in my relationships this season?

*Prayer:* Lord, I lay down my worries before You and ask for Your peace that transcends all understanding. Fill me with calmness and trust in Your provision. Amen.

12-5-24

## Day 4: Joy in the Waiting

Scripture: Psalm 130:5-6

Devotion: Waiting can feel difficult, but Advent invites us to find joy in the waiting, knowing that Christ will come again. The psalmist reminds us that our hope is not in vain, for the Lord's promises are always true.

Self-Examination:

- 1. What aspects of my life make waiting hard?
- 2. How can I cultivate joy even in the waiting seasons?
- 3. What promises of God can I meditate on to strengthen my hope?

*Prayer:* God, teach me to find joy in the waiting and to trust in Your timing. Help me to anticipate Your coming with a heart of gratitude. Amen.

12-6-24

#### Day 5: God with Us

Scripture: Matthew 1:23

*Devotion:* The name "Immanuel" means "God with us." During Advent, we reflect on the incredible truth that God came to dwell among us in the person of Jesus Christ. In every moment of our lives, God is present with us.

Self-Examination:

- 1. How aware am I of God's presence in my life today?
- How can I invite God into my daily routines?
- 3. What areas of my life do I need to invite Christ to be present?

*Prayer:* Immanuel, thank You for coming to be with us. Help me to recognize Your presence in every moment and draw closer to You. Amen.

12-9-24

Day 6: The Light of the World

Scripture: John 8:12

Devotion: Jesus calls Himself the Light of the World. Advent is a season of darkness in many parts of the world, yet it points us to the light of Christ that shines in the darkness. This light brings clarity, warmth, and direction.

Self-Examination:

- 1. In what areas of my life do I need the light of Christ to shine?
- 2. How can I reflect Christ's light to others around me?
- 3. What dark thoughts or actions do I need to bring into God's light?

*Prayer:* Jesus, You are the Light of the World. Shine Your light into my heart and guide me on the path You have set before me. Amen.

#### 12-10-24

### Day 7: A Savior is Born

Scripture: Luke 2:10-11

*Devotion:* The birth of Jesus is the greatest gift ever given. In the manger, we see God's love made tangible. As we celebrate His birth, let us also reflect on the salvation He offers to the world.

Self-Examination:

- 1. What does the birth of Jesus mean to me personally?
- 2. How do I celebrate the Savior's birth in my daily life?
- 3. Am I living out the salvation Christ has offered me?

*Prayer:* Thank You, Jesus, for coming to save us. Help me to live with a heart of gratitude for the gift of Your love. Amen.

#### 12-11-24

#### Day 8: Humility of the Christ Child

Scripture: Philippians 2:6-8

*Devotion:* Christ's birth in a humble manger teaches us the value of humility. In a world that prizes power and status, Jesus showed us that true greatness comes through serving others. *Self-Examination:* 

- 1. How can I practice humility this Advent season?
- 2. In what ways am I putting my own desires before the needs of others?
- 3. How can I serve others in the spirit of Christ's humility?

*Prayer:* Lord Jesus, teach me to walk in humility as You did. Help me to serve others selflessly and with a heart of love. Amen.

#### 12-12-24

## Day 9: The Good News

Scripture: Luke 2:10-14

Devotion: The angels brought good news of great joy, and that news has not changed. Advent is a reminder that Christ's birth is good news to all people. We are called to share that joy with others.

Self-Examination:

- 1. How can I share the good news of Jesus with others?
- How does the good news of Christ's birth change my life today?
- 3. What barriers are preventing me from fully embracing the joy of Christ?

*Prayer:* Thank You for the good news of great joy, Lord. Help me to share that joy with everyone I meet and to live out Your message of hope. Amen.

#### 12-13-24

## Day 10: God's Love Revealed

Scripture: 1 John 4:9-10

*Devotion:* In sending Jesus, God demonstrated His immense love for us. Advent calls us to reflect on the love of God revealed in the birth of Christ. This love is a gift, freely given, and it transforms our hearts.

Self-Examination:

- 1. How am I reflecting God's love in my relationships?
- 2. What might be hindering me from fully receiving God's love?
- 3. How can I express God's love to others this Advent?

*Prayer:* God of love, thank You for sending Your Son to show us the depth of Your love. Help me to love others as You have loved me. Amen.

#### 12-16-24

#### Day 11: Faithful to the Promise

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 1:20

*Devotion:* God is faithful to His promises, and the birth of Jesus is a testament to that faithfulness. Advent reminds us that God's promises are always kept, even when the fulfillment seems long in coming.

Self-Examination:

- 1. What promises of God do I need to trust more fully?
- 2. How have I seen God's faithfulness in my life?
- 3. Where do I need to rely more on God's faithfulness today?

*Prayer:* Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness. Help me to trust in Your promises, knowing that You always keep Your word. Amen.

#### 12-17-24

## Day 12: Peace on Earth

Scripture: Luke 2:13-14

Devotion: Jesus came to bring peace to earth, but peace can only come through reconciliation with God. Advent calls us to be peacemakers in the world, sharing the peace of Christ wherever we go.

Self-Examination:

- 1. How am I actively making peace in my relationships?
- 2. What areas of my life need reconciliation?
- 3. How can I bring Christ's peace to others this Advent?

*Prayer:* Prince of Peace, fill my heart with Your peace and help me to be a peacemaker in the world. Amen.

#### 12-18-24

## Day 13: A New Beginning

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:17

*Devotion:* The birth of Christ marks the beginning of a new chapter in God's plan for the world. Through Jesus, we are offered new life. Advent is a time to embrace that new beginning and the transformation Christ brings.

Self-Examination:

- 1. How has Christ transformed my life?
- 2. What old habits or patterns do I need to leave behind?
- 3. What new beginnings is God calling me to embrace?

*Prayer:* Jesus, thank You for the new life You offer. Help me to walk in the newness of life and to leave behind all that does not honor You. Amen.

#### 12-19-24

#### Day 14: Gratitude for His Grace

Scripture: Ephesians 2:8-9

Devotion: The grace of God is a gift we do not deserve but receive freely. Advent is a time to reflect on the grace of God displayed in the birth of Jesus, and to live out that grace toward others.

Self-Examination:

- 1. How have I experienced God's grace in my life?
- 2. How can I extend grace to others this season?
- 3. What obstacles prevent me from accepting God's grace more fully?

*Prayer:* Lord, thank You for Your amazing grace. Help me to live in gratitude and to extend grace to others as You have done for me. Amen.

#### 12-20-24

## Day 15: Living in Expectation

Scripture: Romans 8:18-25

Devotion: Advent is not only about remembering Christ's first coming but also anticipating His return. As we wait, we live in hope and expectation, knowing that our salvation is near. Self-Examination:

- 1. How does the anticipation of Christ's return affect my life today?
- 2. What is my attitude toward waiting for God's perfect timing?
- 3. How can I encourage others to live in anticipation of Christ's return?

*Prayer:* Lord, help me to live in eager expectation of Your return. May my heart be filled with hope and anticipation as I await Your coming. Amen.

#### 12-23-24

#### Day 16: Giving Thanks for His Birth

Scripture: Colossians 3:15-17

Devotion: Advent is a season to give thanks for the birth of Jesus and all He has done for us. We are called to live lives of gratitude, sharing the love of Christ with the world.

Self-Examination:

- 1. What am I most grateful for this Advent season?
- 2. How can I show gratitude for Christ's birth beyond this season?
- 3. How can I cultivate a spirit of thankfulness in my life?

*Prayer:* Thank You, Jesus, for the gift of Your life. Help me to live each day with a heart full of gratitude, reflecting Your love to those around me. Amen.

#### 12-24-24

## Day 17: Sharing the Gift of Christ

Scripture: Matthew 28:18-20

Devotion: The gift of Christ is one we are meant to share with others. As we continue our

Advent journey, we are reminded to go and tell others about the Savior who has come for them. *Self-Examination:* 

- 1. How can I share the gift of Christ with others this Advent?
- 2. Who in my life needs to hear the message of Jesus' love?
- 3. How can I be bold in sharing the Gospel?

*Prayer:* Jesus, help me to share the gift of Your love with others. Give me the courage to speak of Your greatness and to invite others into Your love. Amen.

## 12-25-24

Day 18: Jesus is Here Scripture: Luke 2:1-21

#### **Awaiting His Return**

Scripture: Revelation 22:20

Devotion: Advent ends with a longing for Christ's return. Just as we celebrate His first coming, we look forward to His second. Let us live each day with that anticipation in our hearts, ready to meet our Savior.

Self-Examination:

- 1. How am I preparing for Christ's return in my daily life?
- 2. What are the areas of my life that need to be aligned with His will?
- 3. How can I live in joyful anticipation of His return?

*Prayer:* Come, Lord Jesus, come. Help me to live each day in readiness for Your return. May my heart be prepared to meet You with joy and anticipation. Amen.