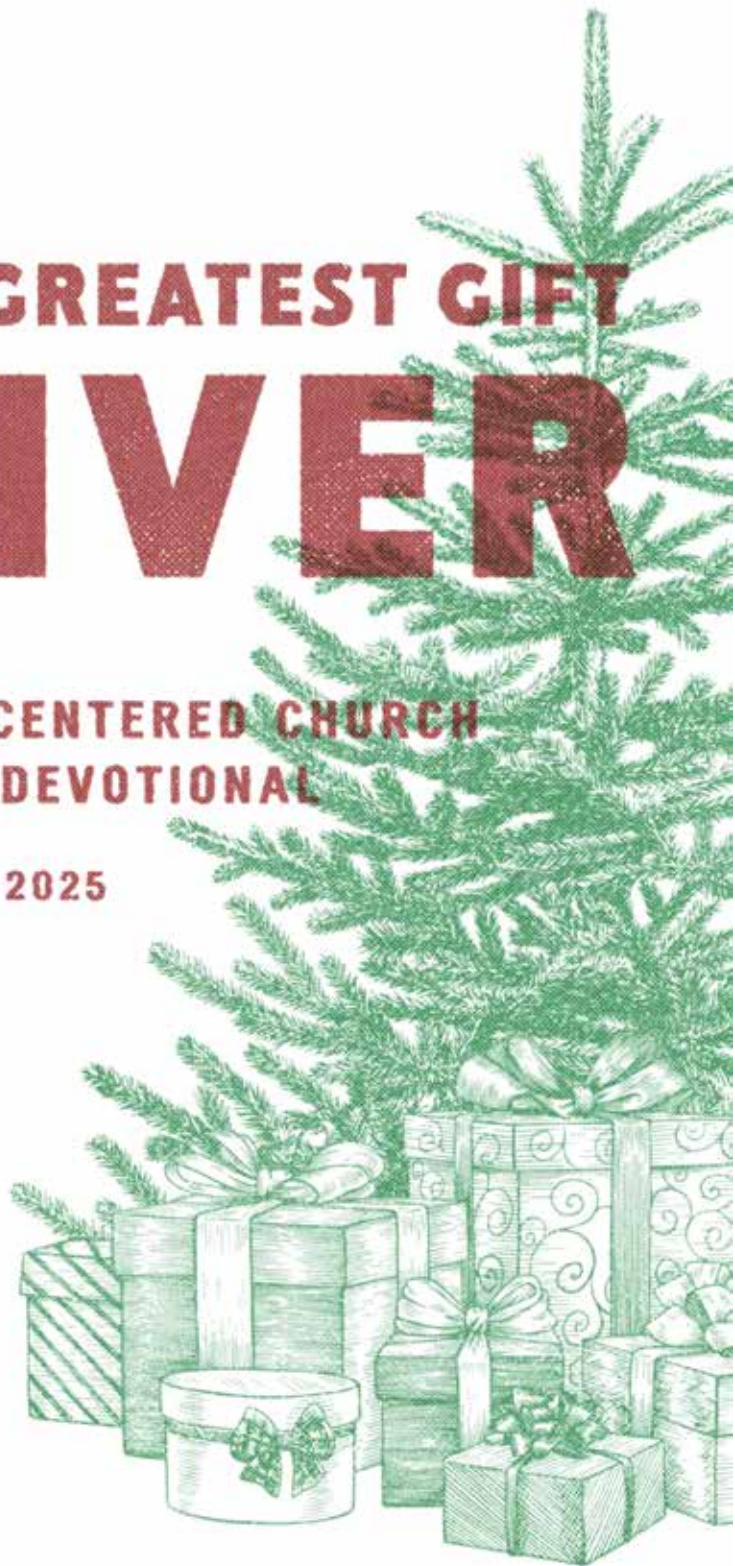


# THE GREATEST GIFT GIVER

CHRIST CENTERED CHURCH  
ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

DECEMBER 2025





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# INTRODUCTION

**A**dvent is a season of slowing down, looking up, and remembering the Father who gives so generously to His people. This devotional, “The Greatest Gift Giver,” was created to help our church family pause each day and reflect on the heart of God the Father... His generous heart, His faithfulness, His presence, and ultimately, His gift of His Son.

What makes this devotional especially meaningful is that it was written by the leaders of our own church. Each day’s reading was prayerfully crafted by someone who serves, loves, and walks alongside this community. Every devotional comes from a different voice, but together they form one message: God is a generous Father, and His gifts reveal who He is.

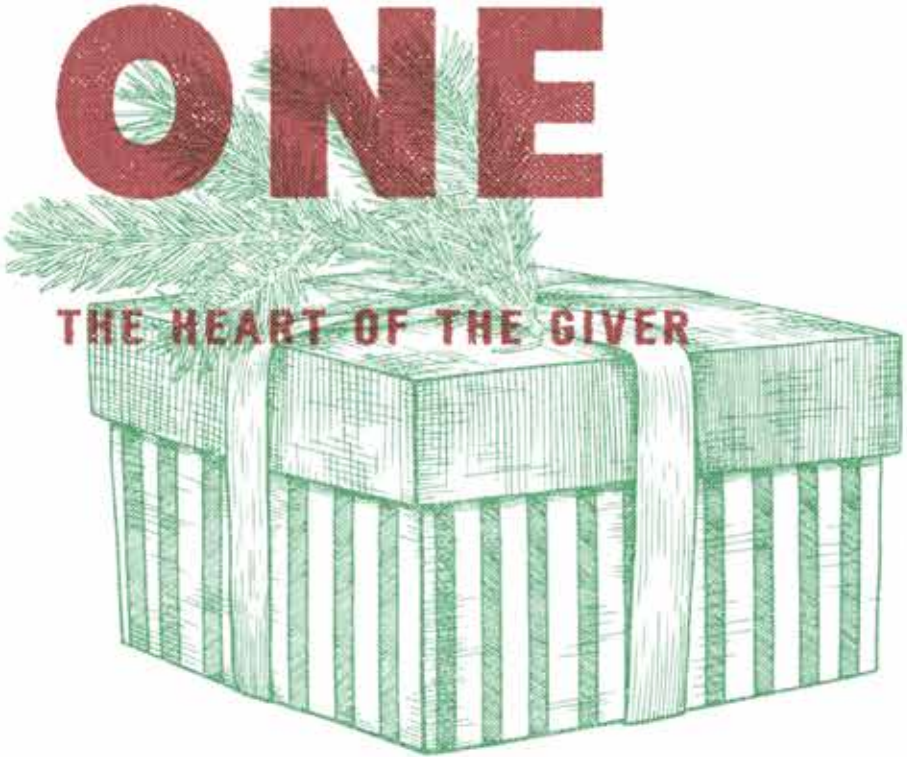
As you read through these 25 days, from December 1st to Christmas morning, our hope is that you’ll see the Father more clearly, trust Him more deeply, and experience His love more personally. We pray that this devotional draws you into moments of rest, reflection, and gratitude as we approach the celebration of Jesus’ birth.

May this Advent season help you remember the greatest gift of all:

**A FATHER WHO GIVES HIMSELF, AND A SAVIOR WHO CAME FOR US.**

# WEEK ONE

THE HEART OF THE GIVER



This week reveals the generous heart of God the Father, the source of every good and perfect gift. We look at who he is... compassionate, faithful, loving, and overflowing with goodness towards his children.

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 1ST**

## **GRACIOUS & GOOD TO ALL**

*"The LORD is gracious and merciful; Slow to anger and great in lovingkindness. The LORD is good to all, And His mercies are over all His works."*

*Psalms 145:8-9*

**G**od gives us his grace freely, so why is it we allow our failures from the past to linger in our minds? We don't have to allow the enemy to remind us of sins that we have been forgiven for. Thanks to the blood of Jesus! God loves us so much he made a way for us to spend eternity with him through the cross.

God shows compassion to all of his creation. Even when we make mistakes. He is patient with us as we should be with others and ourselves. His grace and mercies are new everyday! Doesn't that fill your heart with joy? I know it does mine. Don't live in yesterday's mess and self condemnation. Allow the Father to lavish his love upon you, and trust in his word.

*-Crystal James*

### **PRAYER**

Gracious God thank you for your mercies and compassion that allows me to live in Freedom. Help me to forgive myself and others daily. Thank you for loving me. In Jesus name, amen.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2ND**

## **GOD GIVES REST & RENEWAL**

*"The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness. For His name's sake."*

*Psalms 23:1-3*

**I**magine the life of a sheep, completely dependent on its shepherd for food, water, protection, and direction. David understood this deeply, and when we say, "The Lord is my shepherd," we acknowledge that God provides what we truly need. "I shall not want" means our essential needs for peace, rest, refreshment, and guidance are found in Him. If you feel lack or anxiety today, hand your needs over to your Shepherd. He leads us to green pastures for nourishment and still waters for calm. Sheep only rest when free from fear, hunger, and tension, and God's presence provides all three.

When life feels chaotic or draining, remember that the Shepherd seeks to bring you peace and restore your soul. His guidance is intentional, leading us along the paths of righteousness, the right and safe paths. And He does this for His name's sake, revealing His goodness and faithfulness as we follow His lead. Our lives honor the Shepherd when we trust His direction, showing that His care is for our good and also to display His character to the world.

*-Frank Nuber*

### **PRAYER**

Heavenly Shepherd, thank You for being my provider and my guide. I choose to trust today that I shall not want, because You are taking care of me. Lead me to Your quiet waters and restore my soul. Give me the grace to follow the right paths, that my life may bring honor to In Jesus Name

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3ND**

## **GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE**

*"And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness"*

*Exodus 34:6*

**G**od is eternal and of a singular nature. God is merciful, kind, and full of favor. He is patient, who is not quick to punish and gives people time to repent. God is trustworthy and reliable. God is not harsh or unforgiving; His first reaction to sin is not anger. He is full of compassion and gives us grace even when we don't deserve it. Instead of immediate punishment, He is long-suffering and allows time for repentance.

God's love is not a fleeting emotion but a deep and steadfast commitment. He is consistently faithful to His promises. He forgives iniquity, rebellion, and sin as He withholds the punishment we deserve. While forgiving, God does not let sin go unaddressed. His mercy is vast; however, it does not negate the reality of justice and consequences for sin. During Advent, we try to see God's presence in the people and in the events of our lives, in our longings and our hopes.

*-Valerie Miller*

### **PRAYER**

Thank you for revealing yourself to us as full of mercy, grace and love. Help me not to live in fear of your reactions to my mistakes, but to approach you with steadfast love and faithfulness. Open my eyes to see your character as it truly is - even when I have the wrong picture of you from my past experiences. Remind me that your patience is greater than my failure, and your forgiveness is a gift I can always receive. In Jesus' name, Amen.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

## FAITHFUL TO GENERATIONS

*"Therefore know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments."*

*Deuteronomy 7:9*

**G**od's generosity is rooted in His faithfulness. Long before we ever think to ask, God is already working, already remembering, already keeping His promises. Deuteronomy 7:9 reminds us that God's faithfulness isn't short-lived or dependent on our behavior, it stretches across generations. His covenant love is steady, reliable, and intentional. When God gives, He doesn't give halfway. He gives with a loyal and unwavering heart. In a world where people break promises and circumstances shift without warning, this verse anchors us in the truth that our Father is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

As you reflect today, think about the ways God has shown His faithfulness in your own life. The answered prayers, the doors He opened, the strength He provided, the protection you didn't even realize you needed. His faithfulness didn't start with you, and it won't end with you—He's the God of a thousand generations, and His giving flows from that endless love. Let His steady heart quiet your fears and shape your trust today.

*-Sarah Gibson*

### PRAYER

Father, thank You for being faithful in every season and steady in every promise. Help me trust Your heart today, knowing Your love stretches far beyond what I can see.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

## GIVER OF EVERY GOOD THING

*"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."*

*James 1:17*

**H**ave you ever received a gift so spectacular that you had to share it with everyone you know? Maybe its your favorite sweater or the newest gadget. Possibly a card filled with hand written words from a loved one. Well It's no secret that these gifts can be impactful and fill us with joy. It is also not hard to recognize that we should extend gratitude to the person that has gifted us something of such impact. In this season its easy to place our eyes on the things we might find under a tree. Of all the awesome things we ever receive, nothing can compare to the gift our heavenly Father has given us... Christ our Saviour!

Today let's remember to give God thanks for all the things God has gifted us. Consider the Joys as you grow in your faith and as He draws you closer to Him. Look up to Him for what he has in store for you. God created all things, so allow whatever He blesses you with to be used for the Glory of the Kingdom of God.

*-Pastor Dan Dyer*

### PRAYER

Father, thank You for every good and perfect gift You place in our lives. Help us see Your faithfulness in every season and respond with gratitude and trust. Draw our hearts closer to You as we use Your gifts for Your glory.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH**

## **GOD LOVES LAVISHLY**

*"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him."*

*1 John 3:1*

**T**ake a moment and let the opening word sink in: "See" John is inviting us not just to read about, think about, or casually acknowledge God's love, but to behold it - to pause long enough to recognize how amazing it really is.

God has not offered us some distant, measured, or conditional love. He has lavished His love on us - unearned. And do you know what is the greatest expression of this lavish love? He calls us His children. We are not guests in His house; not employee in His kingdom; and not beggars at His gate. We are His children. We may not always feel worthy. We may not always act like children of God, but our identity doesn't depend on our performance (thank goodness). Rather it is in His declaration.

You are loved more deeply than you can comprehend. You belong to God. Not because you earned His affection, but because He chose you, redeemed you, and delights in calling you His own.

*-Mike Feagans*

### **PRAYER**

Father God, open my eyes to truly see the love You have lavished on me. Help me live today with the confidence and peace of someone who is loved by You. Remind me that I am Your child, fully loved, and never to be abandoned.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH**

## **THE HEIGHTS OF HIS LOVE**

*"Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, LORD, preserve both people and animals.*

*How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light."*

*Psalms 36:5-9*

**T**he love of our heavenly Father is greater than anything we will ever know. That a Holy God could love us in our fallen state is simply amazing. Through our mis-steps and mess-ups our God has and will remain faithful. Our task is to repent of our wrongs, trust in His ways, and follow His commands. Our faith in God and the completed work of Christ is the illumination of life that is on display during this wonderful season!

*-Pastor Kelly Hardcastle*

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for a love that reaches beyond anything we can comprehend. Help us rest in Your faithfulness, repent where we fall short, and walk in the light You provide. Keep our hearts centered on Christ, the true fountain of life.

This week focuses on God's promises and His unchanging nature. Through prophecy and covenant, we see a Father who keeps His word and works patiently through history to accomplish everything he said he would.



# WEEK TWO

THE FAITHFULNESS OF  
THE GIVER

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 8ND**

## **PROMISE KEEPER FOR ALL**

*"The Lord had said to Abram, 'Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.'"*

*Genesis 12:1-3*

**R**ecently, I had the opportunity to teach a Kidz Church lesson about the connection between the Old and New Testaments. I love a good visual, so I illustrated by making two paper chains: green for the Old Testament and red for the New. I joined them using a single golden link with a big bold word on it: JESUS.

You see, when God made that promise to Abraham to bless all nations through him, God already had his perfect plan for redemption in motion. That promise pointed to a Messiah who would come through Abraham's family line, and through the prophets he revealed that they would come from the house of David. Jesus fulfilled every part of that promise! He was a descendant of David, from the tribe of Judah, the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham.

God's promise to Abraham was also a promise to us, declaring that He would make a way for *all* people. And in His infinite wisdom and love, He kept that promise by sending us the greatest gift, His son, Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God!

-Megan Dyer

### **PRAYER**

God, thank You for sending Jesus as the perfect link between Your promises and our salvation. Help us remember Your faithfulness today. Amen.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH**

## **HE BLESSES OBEDIENCE**

*"The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, 'I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.'"*

*Genesis 22:15-18*

**W**e see God reach in, in this defining moment where obedience and action collide. Abraham's obedience defies emotion, logic, doubt, and self ambition. He held nothing back from God; not even his son of the promise, Isaac. Abraham had once tried to take God's plan into his own hands and stepped outside of the bounds of God's design for marriage and had a son, Ishmael. But here we see Abraham's commitment, willingness and submission to the Lord demonstrated by unrestrained obedience.

Obedience unlocks the blessings that we can not understand or see. Being called into action sometimes looks impossible, undesirable, or without promise. We hold back our time, money, control, or comfort in an effort to protect our own ambition or treasure. It's our sacrifice coupled with obedience that gets the promise. "...because you have obeyed my voice."

*-Sarah Gibson*

### **PRAYER**

Lord, teach us to obey You with the same trust Abraham showed. Help us release whatever we cling to and follow Your voice with willing hearts. Bless our steps as we surrender to Your perfect plan. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

## HE PROMISED A KING

*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this."*

*Isaiah 9:6-7*

Isaiah's prophecy came while living in a dark world, under oppression and uncertainty. Yet through the prophet's message, God's passionate plan gave people hope — the promise of a King brave enough to fight the fight, who would rule with justice, righteousness, and peace.

"For to us a child is born." These simple words remind us that God's greatest gift came not in power, but in humility. Every identity given to Jesus — Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace — reveals to us God's passion and great plan for us today, to bring light to the dark. God covered all the enemies moves with one Warrior – checkmate – Victory over sin and death through Jesus.

**Wonderful Counselor:** He understands your heart and guides you with divine insight. **Mighty Mighty God:** He has the power to overcome every enemy and every fear. **Everlasting Father:** His care for you is personal, eternal, and unfailing. **Prince of Peace:** He brings calm to every storm and reconciles us to God.

-Betty Feagans

### PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank You for being the promised King who left Your throne — my Counselor, my Strength, my Father, and my Peace. Let Your kingdom grow in my heart and in the world around me. Amen.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

## BETHLEHEM FORETOLD

*"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."*

Micah 5:2

**C**enturies before the birth of Jesus, the prophet Micah delivered a message of hope to a people longing for deliverance. Micah 5:2 points to Bethlehem, a seemingly insignificant village, as the birthplace of the one who would change the course of history. In the world's eyes, power and greatness are often associated with prominence, wealth, or influence. Yet, God chose humility and obscurity as the setting for His greatest gift to humanity.

Consider the striking contrast: Bethlehem was "small among the clans of Judah," yet from it would come a ruler whose "origins are from of old, from ancient times." This prophecy not only affirms the divinity of Christ, but also reminds us that God's plans are not constrained by human expectations or limitations.

Take time today to reflect on areas of your life where you feel "small" or insignificant. Ask God to show you how He might use those very places for His purposes. Remember, Bethlehem was overlooked by many, but chosen by God.

-Frank Nuber

### PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your faithfulness and for choosing what is humble to reveal Your glory. Help me to see Your work in the ordinary moments of my life. May I trust in Your promises and walk in humility, knowing You have a purpose for me. Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

## HE KEEPS HIS WORD

*"Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us— to show mercy to our ancestors and to remember his holy covenant, the oath he swore to our father Abraham...*

*Luke 1:68-73*

**W**e are excited to come to the Lord with our praises because He always comes to His people. He has brought his redemption and it lands in the middle of our brokenness. He gifts us with the powerful salvation in Jesus, fulfilling all of His promises along the way. God proves once again, over and over, that He remember His covenant and keeps every promises He has made to us.

*-Pastor Don Miller*

### PRAYER

God, You have proven again and again that Your word is true. Thank You for Jesus, the fulfillment of every promise and the hope for our brokenness. Strengthen our faith as we worship You, the God who remembers His covenant forever. Amen.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13TH**

## **HE'S ALWAYS ON TIME**

*"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*

*2 Peter 3:9*

**A**n anyone who has met a toddler has seen that waiting and patience are not something that come naturally to us. Waiting is hard! It's especially challenging when we're waiting on the Lord. That unknowing gives room for doubt, especially when we don't see movement or answers right away. But 2 Peter 3:9 reminds us that God's timing is never slow, it's *purposeful*.

He doesn't forget what He's spoken. He doesn't change His mind. He isn't delayed. Instead, His timing is shaped by His patience, His compassion, and His desire for us to walk in His best. When we wait, we aren't waiting on a silent God; we're waiting on a faithful Father who works with eternity in mind.

As you reflect today, remember the places where you've been praying, hoping, or longing for breakthrough. God hasn't overlooked a single one of those needs. His faithfulness doesn't bow to your timeline, but it always meets you at the right moment. Trust that the Father sees you, knows you, and is working even now. Even when we don't see it, he's working.

*-Megan Dyer*

### **PRAYER**

Father, help me trust Your timing even when I can't see what You're doing. Strengthen my faith as I wait, and remind me that Your promises are always worth trusting. In Jesus name, Amen.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH**

## **TRUST IN GOD**

*"God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?"*

*Numbers 23:19*

**W**hen God speaks to you, you can trust and rely on what he says (he is not a liar, nor will he fail.) His word is faithful and true. He is steadfast with his promises. We read about it in the Bible and see it in our own lives. People will disappoint you, but God never will. God is the foundation of trust.

God's truth provides us hope and insurance. When he tells you that he is your strength when you are weak believe him. When your mind is full of lies speak God's truth (it's powerful and effective.) Knowing what he says about you is true! And in difficult times we can find comfort knowing that God's promises will be fulfilled providing us with hope and strength.

*-Rochelle James*

### **PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, thank you for being someone that I can trust in with everything. That you keep every promise you speak. In Jesus name, Amen.



## **THE PRESENCE OF THE GIVER**

This week centers on God's desire to be with His people. From the Old Testament to the promise of Immanuel, we discover a Father who draws near, stays close, and never abandons His children.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

## HIS PRESENCE GOES WITH US

*"The Lord replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."*

*Exodus 33:14*

**W**hen God first reveals himself to Moses, He was revealing His heart. He was gentle and patient with Moses, showing His faithfulness and His love for His children, revealing the desired goodness that was to come. In the same way, when God told Moses, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest," He was assuring him that His character was not distant or abstract. His compassion, grace, and faithfulness were not just qualities—they were promises Moses could carry with him into every step ahead.

Today let us not overlook even the smallest of gifts. During the holidays, it can be very busy; don't let a distraction as small as losing your keys distract you from that too being a gift from God. Delayed travel can be one of the biggest gifts we ever receive, yet never see the fruition. And through it all, God's Presence still goes with us, offering rest, peace, and the quiet assurance that He is near.

*-Scott O'Hanlon*

### PRAYER

Lord, thank You for the promise that Your presence goes with us and gives us rest. Help us recognize Your goodness in every moment, even the small and unexpected ones. Keep our hearts aware of Your nearness today. Amen.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16TH

## HE IS WITH US ALWAYS

*The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."*

*Deuteronomy 31:8*

**T**here have been times in my life when I've felt the Lord drawing me nearer, when I felt his presence. And there have been times when... I haven't. When the Lord felt distant, and far away. In times of closeness, it's like I have a two-way radio directly to the Lord. And in the distance, it's a signal so faint you can hardly make out a word. I used to believe that the nearness I felt with God (or lack thereof) was because of where He was, but I learned that scripture is very clear: *He stays*.

My own sin, distraction, fear, or selfishness are most often the reason for the perceived distance. They cause interference or distort that radio signal. It's hard to hear the voice of the Lord when you're tuned in to the world or listening to the lies of the enemy. But today, I know that if I draw near to him, he will draw near to me, because he never left in the first place.

He's never going to give you up. He's never going to let you down. He's never going to run around and desert you. He is with you *always*.

*-Megan Dyer*

### PRAYER

Father, if ever you feel far away, remind me that you're still right here. Help me, Lord, to turn down every distraction and tune in to you. Thank you for the peace I have knowing that you are always by my side, no matter what. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

## JOY IN HIS PRESENCE

*You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy  
in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand."*

*Psalms 16:11*

**L**ife often feels like a winding path full of decisions, uncertainties, and unexpected down trees, water over the roadway, potholes, google maps recalculating life. Yet, David reminds us that God is not silent about the way we should go. He makes known to us the path of life. This isn't merely a roadmap for our circumstances, it's an invitation into relationship with the all-powerful King of Kings

True direction and lasting joy comes not from our own sense of direction (understanding), but from dwelling in God's presence. When we stay close to Him through prayer, worship, and stillness, He fills our hearts with a joy that is unstoppable. His presence is not just a place of peace; it's a place of security. Joy isn't just for the future but a present reality that provides security.

Where feet may fail – My faith will stand and keep my eyes above this life – My soul will rest in Your embrace – For I am Yours and You are mine. Every time we seek Jesus we find rest for our soul and confidence for the journey ahead.

*-Betty Feagans*

### PRAYER

Heavenly Father, where my feet may fail and fear surrounds me, help me to walk closely with You today, to listen for Your voice, and to rest in Your presence. Thank You for Your sovereign hand always guiding me. Fill me with the joy that only You can give and remind me that my security is found in You alone. May I find joy unspeakable joy in You always. In Jesus name, Amen.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18TH

## NEVER BEYOND HIS REACH

*"Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast."*

*Psalm 139:7-10*

**N**o situation you find yourself in is too far from God's reach. Even if you feel yourself drowning, God is always there to pull you up. Trust that his hand is going to be there for you.

God is everywhere all the time. We can't escape or run too far from his love, no matter the situation. Just remind yourself of that truth. When you feel alone or in too deep, God will be there to show you the way.

It's a wonderful and amazing feeling to know he loves you so deeply that wherever you go or whatever you do, he is right there. Just stop and look around to see and feel God in all things.

*-Rochelle James*

### PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I thank you for always being with me and within me. If I ever need a reminder, please lead me to you. In Jesus name, Amen.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19TH**

## **THE PROMISE OF IMMANUEL**

*"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."*

*Isaiah 7:14*

**T**here are 5,500 promises in the Bible. God can be trusted to keep His promises.

One such promise, is found in Isaiah 7:14. It says that a virgin would be with child and give birth to a son, and will call Him, Immanuel. This name reminds us that the greatest promise God ever kept was the promise of His presence with us.

Praise the Lord! Mary was not afraid to do as the angel said. Today, Jesus- Immanuel, is our hope, peace, strength and song. God's love has come to us! Immanuel is here! Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel!

*-Earline Murphy*

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank you for keeping your promise to be with us, even to the end of the age. Matthew 28:20.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20TH**

## **HE WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU**

*"Keep your life free from Love of Money and be content with what you have, for he has said " I will never leave you nor forsake you."*

*Hebrews 13:5*

**T**here was a time in my life when I always worried about where I would get this or I would pay that bill. That consistent worry about how I was going to provide the things we needed with what little money I did have always led to doubt, fear, and anxiety. Have you ever felt like that? Jesus reminds us we don't have to live like that.

Praise God that we can believe Jesus will never leave us! He is our peace, strength, and provider. Sometimes it may feel like we will never get ahead in life remain stuck in a season of hopelessness, but hold on to the promise that Jesus will never leave nor forsake you you will have joy in the midst of it all knowing your provider goes in front of you. God will make sure we have what we need.

God remains faithful he will never abandon you if you feel like you're drowning draw near to him for provision, strength, and comfort.

*-Crystal James*

### **PRAYER**

Beautiful Heavenly Father. Thank you that you are my provider and I don't have to worry about the material things in life. Help me to have faith knowing you will never leave nor forsake me. In the name of your son Jesus amen.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21TH**

## **HE REJOICES OVER YOU**

*The Lord your God is in your midst, A victorious warrior. He will rejoice over you with joy, He will quiet you in His love, He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy.*

*Zephaniah 3:17*

**A**t times we all feel down, or overwhelmed, or wonder how we will make it through the day. Zephaniah 3:17 is an incredibly encouraging verse filled with God's truth and promises. Our ever-present, ever-living God who created the universe and created us is mighty beyond all imagination, yet He promises to remain in our midst no matter what. He is not distant because He chooses to be right here with us. When we call on Him, He is there without fail. What a comfort that any challenge we face pales in comparison to His might, yet He loves each of us so intimately that He has promised to never leave us!

Joy in us is something that comes from within, based on our knowledge and love of Christ. Twice in this verse, we see the word joy. The fact that God delights in us so much is because of who we are in Him and not because of our own abilities or works. His personal and joyful delight in us is so intense that it causes Him to exult with loud singing. The ultimate gift to you is that God loved you enough to create you and then to ensure you are able to spend all eternity with Him. He sent His only Son, Jesus, to selflessly sacrifice Himself to a brutal death on the cross so that all you must do is sincerely proclaim Jesus as your risen Lord and Savior. In other words, the Lord God has simply gifted you all eternity in heaven. Accept his gift!

*-Chris Mennemeyer*

### **PRAYER**

Thank you, God, for your presence, your love, and the gifts you've given me. Quiet my heart by your love and to help me rejoice in your song over my life. In Jesus name, Amen.

This short final week brings us to the culmination of God's generosity. In the fullness of time, the Father gave His greatest and most personal gift, His son, so we could know his Love, redemption, and eternal life.



**THE GREATEST  
GIFT OF ALL**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 22ND**

## **HE LOVED SO HE GAVE**

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."*

*John 3:16*

**I**n this scripture, we often fixate on the words loved, Son, and eternal life. But notice the verb that tells us something profound about God's character: He gave.

God is, at His core, a generous giver. He does not give reluctantly. He does not give sparingly. He does not give out of obligation or duty. He gives out of abundance because it is His nature to pour Himself out for those He loves. The Father's giving is not a reaction to our works or goodness, but an expression of His. The ultimate gift God gave us was not an object, a blessing, a provision, or a spiritual perk. He gave HIMSELF, through His Son.

We often give to fill a need when someone is hungry, hurting, or in trouble. We typically give from our excess, but God gave from His essence. He gave His one and only Son the treasure of heaven, the delight of eternity. This gift wasn't wrapped in glory but in humility. This gift was not set up on a throne but hung on a cross for a purpose: to ensure our life instead of death, hope instead of despair, freedom instead of fear, and eternity instead of judgment to all who accept this Gift and believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. A gift must be received to be enjoyed. John 3:16 includes an open invitation: "Whoever believes..." That means you aren't disqualified. You aren't overlooked. You aren't too late. God's Gift only needs your willing heart to receive it! What He gave in Christ is proof that He will not stop giving you the grace, strength, wisdom, peace, and comfort you need each day.

*-Chris Mennemeyer*

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for being the God who gives. Thank You for giving Your Son so that I could live. Teach my heart to receive Your love fully and trust Your generosity. Let the reality of Your great gift shape my gratitude, my faith, and my daily walk with You. Amen.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD**

## **GOD'S TIMING**

*"But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born[a] of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons."*

*Galatians 4:4-5*

**G**od's timing is perfect each time. God took time out to send His only begotten Son, Jesus. Fully human, fully under the law so He could redeem us. We have to get to the point where we make decisions based on what God can do, and stop thinking we can fix it on our own.

Through Him, we are forgiven, we are adopted and fully welcome into God's family. Because of that, our identity is set with the Father who loves us forever.

*-Pastor Don Miller*

### **PRAYER**

Lord, thank You that Your timing is always perfect. Help us trust what You are doing even when we cannot see the whole picture. Thank You for sending Jesus to redeem us and make us Your children. Teach us to rest in the identity You have given us. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

## HE WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU

*"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.*

1 John 4:9

**H**ow many gifts have you wrapped so far? I think it is safe to say at this point you have wrapped, purchased, and maybe even given what would seem like countless gifts for those you love. One would think it is safe to say that each gift will be given with no strings attached, (well maybe a ribbon and a bow). As we gather around our families and give our gifts to others freely without expecting a response or something in return, let us reflect on how this is imaged The way our heavenly Father demonstrates this to us. God has shown us his love by giving the Most Precious thing to Him, His Son.

You see God has made a way for us to be in relationship with Him for eternity. Through his Son. He acted First, He set it into place from the beginning. Though there may be some who will reject Him or not accept His gift, He still loves them. His Grace and Love or Freely given. Yet the gift is the most priceless that could ever be given. Today in all the movement. May we stop and have a moment to recognize why we are giving the gifts in the first place. May our hearts be captured in the knowledge that God our Father, Jesus His Son gave it all. May the Holy Spirit fall up on us and give us the wisdom to give our Gifts in a manner that imagines the way our Father gives. May we give in grace. Give in Love. Give in wisdom. Give in Holiness. And Finally Give to all as you are giving to the Lord.

-Pastor Dan Dyer

### PRAYER

Father, thank You for loving us first and giving freely without expecting anything in return. Teach us to give with Your heart and reflect Your love in all we do. Amen.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

## THE GREATEST GIFT

*"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"*

*2 Corinthians 9:15*

In a popular Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer episode that I watched as a child, Rudolph and company go to an island of toys that are unwanted by children. These "misfit toys" are given new life and hope when they are rescued from the island and given into the care of children all across the world.

In the same way, we were "misfits" on an island called sin and death. Our Heavenly Father rescued us by sending His only begotten son, Jesus. Through faith this "indescribable gift" has made us "fit" and we now share our faith (the Gospel) with those who are still stranded on the "island."

*-Pastor Kelly Hardcastle*

### PRAYER

Lord, thank You for the indescribable gift of Jesus. Just as the misfit toys were rescued and given new purpose, You reached into our brokenness and brought us into Your family. This Christmas, remind us that we were once stranded and without hope, yet You came for us with love that does not give up. Fill our hearts with gratitude for the rescue we have received, and help us joyfully share that same hope with those who still feel forgotten or lost. Let the light of Christ shine through us today. Amen.







**CHRIST CENTERED CHURCH**  
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