



CHRISTMAS ADVENT

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming”, and refers to the period of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus. Advent is the Christmas Season.

However, these days December is often referred to as the “silly season”, as we all rush around shopping and partying and can often lose the real meaning of Christmas come the 25th.

This Advent Devotional has 25 daily devotionals to prepare your heart, mind and soul despite all the hustle and bustle, so that you can truly enter in and celebrate the Christ child’s birth.

Each day will build on the previous and prepare for the next, so don’t forget to take time each day.

TAKE ONE DAY AT A TIME!

DECEMBER 1



Luke 1:5-25



What 12 things did the angel tell Zechariah?

•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•

Why was this pregnancy so special?

Zechariah questioned “How can I be sure of this?”

What does this show about his faith?

What prayers are you waiting for God to answer?

PONDER &



Are you waiting full of faith or faltering in a lack of faith as you wait on God?

DECEMBER 2



John 1:6-8; 1:15-18

Luke 1:16-17



What was John called to do?



John 1:23-34

Luke 3:1-18

Mark 1:4-8

What was John's baptism?

How did John prepare the way for the Lord?

PONDER &



**How was the way of the
Lord prepared for you?**

DECEMBER 3



Luke 1:26-38



What did the angel tell Mary about Jesus' birth?

-
-
-
-

What did the angel tell Mary about Jesus' future?

-
-
-
-
-

How did these predictions come true?



Isaiah 9:6-7

PONDER &

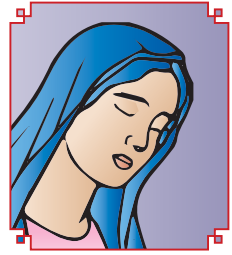


**The predictions before
Jesus' conception.**

DECEMBER 4



Isaiah 7:14
Luke 1:26-38



What was the prerequisite for the mother of the Son of God?

How important was it that Mary was a virgin?

Would it have made a difference? Why?

All of Israel was waiting for a virgin to be with child, yet people missed the sign? Why?

Mary responded to the news with: "How will this happen?," **Luke 1:34** and "I am the handmaiden of the Lord. May it be to me as you have said." **v38**.

What does this show about Mary's faith?

PONDER &

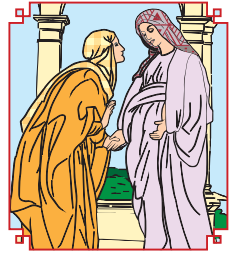


How does the virgin birth influence your faith?

DECEMBER 5



Luke 1:5-7; 39-45



How did Elizabeth know that Mary was carrying God's Son?

What are the 3 blessings Elizabeth exclaimed over Mary? **v42-45**

- Blessed
- Blessed
- Blessed

What kind of a woman was Elizabeth? **v6-7**

-
-
-
-

What did Mary's and Elizabeth's pregnancies have in common?

How would have Elizabeth in her pregnancy been helpful to Mary?

PONDER &



**miracles prophesied over
your own life. Nothing is
impossible for God. v37**

DECEMBER 6



Matthew 1:18-25



What did the angel tell Joseph about Jesus' birth?

-
-
-

What did the angel tell Joseph about Jesus' future?

-

What was the impact of the angel speaking to Joseph in a dream?

How did these predictions come true?

PONDER &



The accuracy of these predictions

DECEMBER 7



Luke 1:26-38

Matthew 1:18-25



What 3 things did the angel tell both Mary and Joseph?

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

What 3 things did the angel predict Jesus would become?

Luke 1:32 Jesus will become _____

Luke 1:33 Jesus will become _____

Matt 1:21 Jesus will become _____

PONDER &



The correlations and the outcomes

DECEMBER 8



Matthew 1:18-25



AT THAT TIME IN JEWISH LAW BETROTHAL WAS AS LEGALLY BINDING AS MARRIAGE AND COULD ONLY BE DISSOLVED BY A FORMAL DIVORCE.

When Joseph first heard the news from Mary that she was pregnant, where is his focus and how do we see the result of that?

How does he treat Mary?

What would he be feeling?

Why didn't he just marry her anyway?

Why consider divorce?



Deuteronomy 22:23

What could he have done to Mary in his culture?

PONDER &



on the man God chose to raise his only begotten Son here on earth.

DECEMBER 9



Luke 1:26-38



How did Mary's respond to what the angel told her?

What were the consequences for Mary?



Matthew 1:18-25

What was Joseph's response to what the angel told him?

What were the consequences for Joseph?

Do you believe what the angel told them? Why?

**MARY AND JOSEPH BELIEVED THE ANGEL AND
OBEYED HIM, DESPITE THE CONSEQUENCES.**

PONDER &



**How is God asking you to obey
him, despite the consequences?**

DECEMBER 10



Micah 5:2-5
Luke 2:1-20



What did the angel tell the shepherds?

Why did the angels and the shepherds praise God?

Why was Jesus' birth good news to everyone?

When did Jesus' birth become good news to you?



and thank God!

PONDER &



**Who can you tell the
good news to today?**

DECEMBER 11



Micah 5:2
Matthew 2:1-12
Jeremiah 23:5 & 6



Who were the wise men looking for?

How did they know a king had been born to the Jews?

How did they find him?

What was the purpose of their journey?

PONDER &



on how you found Jesus

DECEMBER 12



Matthew 2:1-12

What was the first gift the wise men gave baby Jesus?

Why did they give this gift to a baby? **Luke 1:32**



Luke 17:20-21

Where is Jesus' kingdom?

Where does he rule?

How do the Kings of different countries govern their countries during their lifetime?



Luke 1:32-33

How long does Jesus' rule last for?

How is Jesus "the King of Kings"?

PONDER &



How can you let Jesus rule in your entire heart this Christmas?

DECEMBER 13



Matthew 2:1-12

What was the second gift the wise men gave baby Jesus?

Why did they give him this gift?



**INCENSE OR
FRANKINCENSE
IS USED TO
WORSHIP GOD**



Luke 3:21-22

Who is Jesus?

Who is Jesus' true father?

**WE
RESPECTIVELY
CALL GOD
"LORD"**



Philippians 2:9-11

Revelation 17:4

How is Jesus "the Lord of Lords"?

PONDER &



**How can you worship only the
one true God this Christmas?**

DECEMBER 14



Matthew 2:1-12

What was the third gift the wise men gave baby Jesus?

Why did they give him this gift?



Matthew 1:20-21

What did the angel tell Joseph about Jesus?



1 Peter 3:18; 2:24 | Hebrews 10:8-10
1 John 3:5

What can only Jesus do?

Why can only he do that?



John 1:29

How is Jesus the Lamb of God?

How is Jesus our “Saviour”?

How can you let him take away your sins this Christmas?



1 John 1:9

**Spend time confessing, then accepting
and thanking Jesus for forgiving your sins.**



**IN THOSE DAYS
MYRRH WAS USED
TO EMBALM
DEAD BODIES**

**JEWS SACRIFICE
UNBLEMISHED
ANIMALS TO GOD
TO ATONE FOR
THEIR SINS**

DECEMBER 15

This Christmas what gift can you give Jesus?



**The King of
Kings,
The Lord of
Lords and
Our Saviour!**

How will you let him rule in your whole heart?

How will you worship him alone?

How will you let him take away your sins?



Romans 12:1-2 & Matthew 22:37

MEDITATE



and respond to this.

DECEMBER 16



BROWSE through Matthew 1 & 2
Luke 1 & 2



What do you imagine Mary, a 14 year old Jewish virgin would have thought or felt?

From hearing the Angel's news, to having to tell Joseph she's pregnant, to her talk with Elizabeth, to her travel to Bethlehem as she was about to give birth; to her hearing of what the shepherds said when they saw the Messiah; to her looking at God when she had just given birth to Him! What do think it must have been like for this innocent girl?

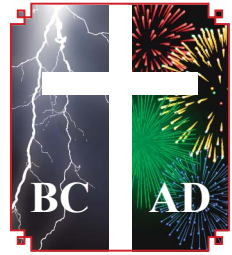
Why did God chose Mary out of all the Jewish women in all of history to be the mother of the Messiah?

PONDER &



**What has God chosen you to do
in your lifetime for his glory?
How are you dealing with this?**

DECEMBER 17



Have you ever taken time to simply think about History and its relationship to Christmas? All of history was pointing to this time and all of history since has been marked by this event (literally) – B.C. (Before Christ) and A.D. (Anno Dominil is latin meaning “In the year of our Lord” i.e. After Jesus) God orchestrated the census, the star appearing, there being no room in the inn etc.



PONDER - Luke 1:46-55

What was Mary’s understanding of God?

**God has also orchestrated the events of your life.
How does this make you feel?**

PONDER &



What is your understanding of God?

DECEMBER 18



Luke 2:25-40



What was Simeon waiting for?

(GENERAL PROMISE)

What was the promise that God had made to him?

(PERSONAL PROMISE)

Why did he praise God?

CONSOLATION OF ISRAEL

ALSO KNOWN

AS THE:

MESSIAH (HEBREW)

CHRIST (GREEK)

“ANNOINTED ONE

OF GOD”

What were Simeon’s 3 prophecies about Jesus? v34-35

-
-
-

What was Anna’s response to Jesus?

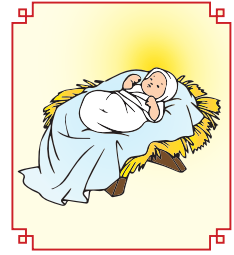
How were Simeon and Anna able to recognise and prophesy that out of all the children taken to the temple every day for hundreds of years that the baby Jesus was the Messiah?

PONDER &



**How are you waiting for promises
to be fulfilled in your life?**

DECEMBER 19



Less than a week and Christmas will be here!

We have looked at most of the key players in the Christmas story, except for one, Jesus. What would it have been like for the God man to have become fully dependent, weak, a child? If you were the baby Jesus and you were looking up at the mother and father you created, what might you be thinking and feeling?

Become the babe as you step out of heaven and onto earth.



Matthew 1:21 & Luke 2:7

From *commanding angels* to *sleeping in hay*

From *omnipotence* to *complete dependence*

From _____ to _____

From _____ to _____

From _____ to _____

From _____ to _____

From _____ to _____

From _____ to _____

From _____ to _____

From _____ to _____

PONDER &



Why did Jesus do this?

DECEMBER 20



When you think of all the events surrounding Jesus' birth, each was carefully orchestrated by the King of Kings for a special reason.

It seems that God chose the dark of night to usher in the light of the world. A dark (i.e. sinful), cold world, with no hope, suddenly was transformed. Light always dispels darkness - Jesus was and is the victor!



PONDER - Luke 2:32

John 1:1-15



Take time to give thanks & light a single candle to represent Jesus as your audience of one, who is liberating you from any and all darkness.

DECEMBER 21



PONDER – Matthew 1 & 2
Luke 1 & 2



As you relook at each account you will notice there are a lot of unexpected occurrences, waiting, and changes of plans for Mary, Joseph, Zechariah, Elizabeth, Simeon, Anna, the Shepherds and the 3 Wise men.

LIST THE DIFFERENT EVENTS:

UNEXPECTED OCCURRENCES	WAITING	CHANGES OF PLANS

Yet the predominant emotion is _____

and the common act is _____.

WHERE ARE YOU AT THIS CHRISTMAS?

DECEMBER 22



As we've seen Christmas is a time of *expectation*, *giving* of gifts, *fulfillment* of promises, words of *praise*, times of spontaneous *worship*, feelings of overwhelming *joy* and *thankful* hearts. It is God becoming man and man being offered the hope of forgiveness and freedom from sin's power.

MAKE A LIST OF ALL GOD HAS DONE FOR YOU AND WHY YOU ARE THANKFUL

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

(This list can be used to encourage you at special times).



**Take time throughout
the day to give thanks.**

DECEMBER 23



Matthew 1 & 2

Luke 1 & 2

Jeremiah 23:5-6

Micah 5:2-5

Isaiah 7:14 & Isaiah 9:6-7



Jesus is referred to by many different names in the above passages.

LIST THEM AND WHERE POSSIBLE THEIR MEANINGS

Jesus - Lord saves

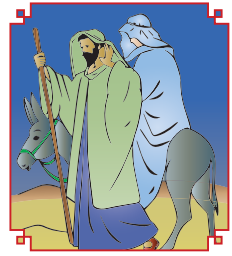


and worship Jesus using these names.

DECEMBER 24



Luke 2:1-7
Micah 5:2



Who did God use to organise for Jesus to be born in Bethlehem?

What would it have been like to give birth without a midwife and no sterilization? Only Mary's fiancé who she had not be intimate with, to assist her in the birth of God's Son!

PONDER &



Why did God allow his only begotten son to be born in such conditions?

DECEMBER 25

It's Christmas!

The King of Kings, the Lord of Lords
and our Messiah, Jesus was born!

Light, hope and *joy* entered our
dark and sinful world.



His life lead to His death,
which then gave way to His
resurrection and ascension.

SALVATION IS OURS!

Merry Christ-mas!

RELAX, REJOICE, WORSHIP

for today our Saviour was born,
freedom bought, sin and Satan defeated.

WE ARE HIS!



**I hope and pray that this little
Christmas gift has helped set the
scene for a meaningful Christmas!**



P.O. Box 2082 Bayswater 3153 Australia
P (03) 9738 2022
E info@gcm.org.au
www.gcm.org.au

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