

THURSDAY: Perfect Timing

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: Galatians 4:4 *But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son...*

TODAY'S MEDITATION: Even though I wish I were more patient. I get frustrated with waiting in lines and prefer decisions to be made right away. Whenever I need help, I'd rather have fast, simple answers.

Patience can be difficult. Yet, in this season of advent, we are invited to cultivate patience—not as a passive act, but as an active trust in God.

Read Matthew 1:18-25. Think about the quiet patience of Joseph, a man who was unsure and confused but still chose to trust in God's timing. He didn't rush ahead, forcing answers, but waited—listening to the angel's message, trusting that God's plan was unfolding even when he couldn't see the full picture.

Your anxious moments may tempt you to find answers outside of God's plan, but God's timing is worth waiting for. In what area of your life do you need to actively trust God's timing?

FRIDAY: A Baby Who is Mighty God

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: Psalm 20:7 *Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.*

TODAY'S MEDITATION: We don't often think of baby Jesus in the manger as a strong figure. Part of the beauty of Christmas is how God became a vulnerable baby born in a stable and placed in a manger. Yet, this baby is called Mighty God—a name often used to describe God throughout the Bible. God is mighty.

God is a God who intervenes in history. He rescued Israel with the ten plagues, He parted the Red Sea, He led them fire by night and cloud by day. He provided, protected, and preserved. God has been active throughout history and is still active today.

Christmas is a celebration of God's most significant intervention by placing himself into the world as a human. God is a mighty, intervening God. The Christmas season shouts that at us, "I love you! I want to save you! I want you! I'm here for you!"

Today as you invite God into your day, dare to ask him for the one thing only a Mighty God could do. Place your impossible circumstances in his hands. Because life is more than we can manage, we all need a mighty God.



THEME: BECAUSE JESUS IS MIGHTY GOD, WE HAVE HOPE.

Isaiah 9:6

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.

MONDAY– Waiting

TODAY’S SCRIPTURE: Lamentation 3:24-26 ²⁴ *I say to myself “The Lord is my portion; therefore, I will wait for him.”*²⁵ *The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him;* ²⁶ *it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.*

TODAY’S MEDITATION: For generations, the Israelites have been waiting for the arrival of Messiah. He is the one who will fulfill the promise given long ago to their ancestor Abraham and through whom the whole world will be blessed (Genesis 12:1-3). They hear nothing for hundreds of years. No prophets. No signs. No wonders.

We can experience a terrible sense of unease when we wait. The Christmas season can be a great revealer. Revealing our hopes and expectations...and revealing the more-likely, less-pretty reality of life as it is.

We are not alone in that feeling. The unwed Mary didn’t know what was going to happen when she got pregnant. Joseph didn’t know what would happen when he accepted Mary. The wisemen did not know what they would find at the end of their journey, disobeying Herod. So perhaps we keep good company with all those who are learning to wait with hope.

Waiting and uncertainty are the worst. Whether you are waiting on test results, or waiting to hear from a loved one, waiting to find that perfect job, or waiting to feel a break in the long list of absurd things that have happened, we are all waiting for something.

While Advent acknowledges those who have long waited for their Savior, Advent also embodies a kind of excited anticipation. The kind felt by kids (or adults!) on Christmas morning eager to peek under the tree.

Which of those realities feels truer to you today? How can you make room for both of this season?

TUESDAY – Light

TODAY’S SCRIPTURES: Isaiah 9:2 *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.*

TODAY’S MEDITATION: Christmas is the season of light and of lights. Many people light up the long winter nights with lights on their trees or homes, even blow-up characters and dinosaurs. There are lights everywhere you look.

What is your favorite memory of going to see Christmas lights, or lighting up your Christmas tree, or dreams you have of decorating your house with lights one day. What are your favorite kinds of Christmas lights?

The promise of Advent is that there is a light coming who overcomes the darkness. John 1:5 *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*

One night this week (perhaps tonight!), take time to notice the lights of Christmas, or look up at the stars and the moon. Get curious about the contrast. How do the lights make you feel when you stand in the night? What does this light reveal to you about Jesus as the light shining in darkness?

WEDNESDAY - Trust

TODAY’S SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 32:26-27 ²⁶ Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah: ²⁷ “I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?”

TODAY’S MEDITATION: When we think about Christmas, we often think about what is visible on the surface of Christmas. We think about the quiet, peaceful, idyllic scene of a child’s birth in Bethlehem. Yet it was God sending his Son, invading the realm of darkness. It was God sending his Son on a rescue mission. That’s what the incarnation is. Jesus, the mighty God, comes to rescue his people.

In our lives, recognizing God as Mighty God challenges us to trust Him for great things, to believe in His power to intervene in our circumstances. It calls us to reflect on areas where we may have lost hope or stopped trusting in His greatness. As we celebrate Christmas, we are reminded of the hope fulfilled in Jesus’ birth, death, and resurrection, and the promise of His return to establish His kingdom forever. No matter where you are in life—facing trials, feeling empty, or searching for hope—Jesus is here to help, create, provide, and save. He’s not just a theory; He’s real, and He’s Mighty God.

