

Advent Devotional

Day 1: The Announcement to Zechariah

- Before the birth of Jesus, God sent the angel Gabriel to Zechariah, a priest, to announce the birth of his son, John the Baptist.
- John would prepare the way for Jesus.

Bible Verses: Luke 1:5-25; Malachi 3:1

Prayer: *Heavenly Father Thank you for sending messengers to prepare the way for your Son. Help us to be prepared for his coming.*

Day 2: The Announcement to Mary

- The angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her that she would give birth to Jesus, the Son of God.
- Mary was surprised by this news but accepted God's plan for her life.

Bible Verses: Luke 1:26-38; Isaiah 7:14

Prayer: *Heavenly Father Thank you for choosing Mary to be the mother of your Son. Help us to be obedient to your will, even when it is difficult.*

Day 3: Mary visits Elizabeth

- Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth, who was also pregnant.
- Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and blessed Mary and her unborn son.

Bible Verses: Lucas 1:39-56

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of family and friends. Help us to support each other and encourage each other in our faith.*

Day 4: Mary's song of praise

- Mary sang a song of praise to God, known as the Magnificat.
- In her song, Mary praised God for his mercy and power.

Bible Verses: Lucas 1:46-55

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for your great love for us. Help us to praise you with all our hearts.*

Day 5: José's dream



- Joseph, Mary's fiancé, was troubled when he learned that Mary was pregnant.
- God sent an angel to Joseph in a dream and told him to marry Mary.

Bible Verses: Mateo 1:18-25

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for giving José the courage to obey your will. Help us to trust you, even when we don't understand it.*

Day 6: The trip to Bethlehem

- Joseph and Mary had to travel to Bethlehem to register in the census ordered by the Roman emperor Augustus.

Bible Verses: Luke 2:1-5; Isaiah 11:1

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for being with us on our travels. Help us to trust you to take us where we need to be.*

Day 7: There are no rooms at the inn

- When Joseph and Mary arrived in Bethlehem, they could not find a room at the inn.
- They had to stay in a stable.

Bible Verses: Lucas 2:6-7

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for providing for us, even when there seems to be no way. Help us to be happy with what we have.*

Day 8: The Birth of Jesus

- Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem.
- Mary wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger.

Bible Verses: Luke 2:7; Isaiah 9:6

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your son into the world. Help us celebrate his birth with joy and gratitude.*

Day 9: The Angels and the Shepherds

- An angel appeared to the shepherds in the fields near Bethlehem and announced the birth of Jesus.
- The shepherds went to see Jesus.

Bible Verses: Luke 2:8-20; Galatians 4:4-5



Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for sending angels to announce the good news of the birth of Jesus. Help us share this good news with others.*

Day 10: Visit of the Shepherds

- The shepherds found Mary, Joseph and Jesus in the stable.
- They shared the news of Jesus' birth with Mary and Joseph.

Bible Verses: Lucas 2:15-20

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for the faith and obedience of the shepherds. Help us to be like them and seek Jesus.*

Day 11: The Eastern Star

- The wise men of the East saw a star in the sky that marked the birth of the King of the Jews.
- They followed the star to Jerusalem.

Bible Verses: Matthew 2:1-2; Numbers 24:17

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for leading the wise men to Jesus. Help us to be open to your guidance in our lives.*

Day 12: The Three Wise Men look for Jesus

- The wise men asked King Herod where they could find the newborn king.
- Herod was worried about this news, so he sent the wise men to Bethlehem to find Jesus.

Bible Verses: Mateo 2:3-8

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for using Herod's curiosity to bring the wise men closer to Jesus. Help us use our resources to seek the truth.*

Day 13: The Three Wise Men find Jesus

- The wise men followed the star to Bethlehem and found Jesus in a house.
- They worshiped Jesus and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Bible Verses: Matthew 2:9-11; Psalms 72:10-11

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for the gifts of the wise men to Jesus. Help us to offer our gifts to Jesus too.*

Day 14: The meaning of gifts



- Gold was a gift fit for a king. Incense was a symbol of worship. Myrrh was used to anoint the dead.
- These gifts predicted Jesus' destiny as King, God and Savior.

Bible Verses: Isaiah 60:6; Psalm 72:10-11; John 19:39-40

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for the meaning behind the gifts of the wise men. Help us understand the meaning of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.*

Day 15: The Flight to Egypt

- God warned Joseph in a dream to flee to Egypt with Mary and Jesus because Herod wanted to kill Jesus.
- Joseph obeyed God and took his family to Egypt.

Bible Verses: Mateo 2:13-15

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for protecting Jesus from Herod. Help us to trust in you to protect us from harm.*

Day 16: Herod's wrath

- When Herod realized that the wise men would not return, he became angry and ordered all the children under two years old in Bethlehem to be killed.

Bible Verses: Mateo 2:16-18

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for saving Jesus from the wrath of Herod. Help us remember all those who suffer violence and injustice.*

Day 17: Return to Israel

- After Herod's death, an angel appeared to Joseph and told him to return to Israel with Mary and Jesus.
- Joseph obeyed God and took his family back to Israel.

Bible Verses: Mateo 2:19-21

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for bringing Jesus and his family back to Israel. Help us return to you when we have gone astray.*

Day 18: Transfer to Nazareth

- Joseph was afraid to return to Bethlehem because Herod's son now ruled Judea.
- An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to go to Galilee.
- Joseph obeyed God and took his family to Nazareth in Galilee.



Bible Verses: Mateo 2:22-23

Prayer: *Heavenly Father Thank you for leading Joseph and his family to Nazareth. Help us to be open to your guidance and trust your plan for our lives.*

Day 19: Jesus grows in Nazareth

- Jesus grew up in Nazareth with Mary and Joseph.
- He lived a normal life, but his parents knew he was special.

Bible Verses: Lucas 2:39-40

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for the childhood of Jesus in Nazareth. Help us to appreciate life's ordinary moments and find joy in simplicity.*

Day 20: The Presentation in the Temple

- When Jesus was eight days old, Mary and Joseph took him to the Temple in Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

Bible Verses: Lucas 2:22-38

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for the example of faithfulness of Mary and Joseph in presenting Jesus in the Temple. Help us to dedicate our lives and our children to you.*

Day 21: Simeon's prophecy

- Simeon, a righteous and devout man, was in the temple when Jesus was presented.
- The Holy Spirit revealed to Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah.
- Simeon took Jesus in his arms and blessed God.

Bible Verses: Lucas 2:25-32

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for Simeon's faith and his blessing on Jesus. Help us to recognize Jesus as the Messiah and bless him with our lives.*

Day 22: Anna's prophecy

- Anna, a prophetess, was also in the temple when Jesus was presented.
- He saw Jesus and gave thanks to God, speaking about him to all those who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Bible Verses: Lucas 2:36-38

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for Ana's faithfulness and her testimony of Jesus. Help us to be brave in sharing our faith with others.*



Day 23: The true meaning of Christmas

- Christmas is not about decorations, gifts or parties.
- It is about the birth of Jesus, the Son of God, who came to save us from our sins.

Bible Verses: John 3:16; Romans 6:23

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of your son. Help us focus on the true meaning of Christmas and celebrate its birth with hearts full of love and gratitude.*

Day 24: Immanuel: God with us

- The name Jesus means "God with us."
- Christmas reminds us that God is always with us, no matter what we are going through.

Bible Verses: Matthew 1:23; Isaiah 7:14

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, thank you for always being with us. Help us feel your presence in our lives and share your love with others.*