

MONDAY

“But be sure to fear the Lord and serve Him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things He has done for you.”

1 Samuel 12:24

Reflect on 1 Samuel 12:24 and Samuel’s admonition for the people of God to be found faithful.

In the space below, confess areas of unfaithfulness in your own life.

TUESDAY

*“For unto 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.”*
Isaiah 9:6-7

Think about all the names of Jesus listed in Isaiah 9:6-7. What is one of those names that you are claiming right now? Why?

Are there areas of your life where peace is lacking today?

Talk to the Lord about those areas...

surrender them to God and give Him complete control over them...

thank Him for being Lord of everything in your life...

Receive the peace that only He can give.

WEDNESDAY

“Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess.

He was faithful to the one who appointed Him, just as Moses was faithful in all God’s house.”

Hebrews 3:1-2

Spend some time reading and reflecting on Hebrews 3:1-2 today.

Thank God that His faithfulness brings us peace and that Christ was found faithful.

Ask God to reveal ways that you can be found faithful...in your home, at your job, in your school and in your neighborhood. Record at least 2 things He reveals to you...

1.

2.

THURSDAY

“You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.”

Isaiah 26:3

Memorize Isaiah 26:3

Is your mind stayed on Christ during this season of Advent? Why or why not?

Do you desire the perfect peace only Christ can bring?

Today, as you spend time with the Lord, ask Him to give you His peace and to help you focus all your attention on Him.

FRIDAY

*“May mercy, peace and love be multiplied to you.”
Jude, v. 2*

Consider the greeting from the book of Jude.

What are ways you can be a multiplier of peace to the nations during this advent season?

SATURDAY

*“...if we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot disown Himself.”
2 Timothy 2:13*

Spend some time reflecting on this verse. How does it bring peace to your heart?

Praise God for His faithfulness to bring the Messiah who will return again to usher in a kingdom of peace.

ADVENT SONG

Prophets of old – a birth foretold
Of One to come, Light as the dawn.
Hundreds of years, a thousand tears
A darkened state, and still we wait
For the one who would be called

Emmanuel, Emmanuel
“God with us” is pleased to dwell.
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
My soul can sing for it is well!
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
Peace on earth, good news to tell

A virgin girl, God’s grace received
Salvation’s plan, to be perceived
Redemption came, in human frame
Shepherds were awed, the angels laud
For the one who would be called

Emmanuel, Emmanuel
“God with us” is pleased to dwell.
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
My soul can sing for it is well!
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
Peace on earth, good news to tell

Hope for the earth, for he would save
With his spotless life he gave
Promise assured, He’ll come again
And we’ll rejoice at His reign
Once more He will be called

Emmanuel, Emmanuel
“God with us” is pleased to dwell.
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
My soul can sing for it is well!
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
Peace on earth, good news to tell

ADVENT 2017 WEEK 3

Faithfulness Luke 2:22-38

Before the birth of Jesus, both Joseph and Mary had reputations for being just and humble. Joseph pledged his faithfulness to Mary in light of the news that she was found “*to be with child from the Holy Spirit*” (Matthew 1:18). Mary committed to being a faithful servant of the Lord upon receiving news that she would bear the Son of God (Luke 1:38).

After Jesus’s birth, the Gospel of Luke tells of Mary and Joseph presenting him at the temple. They brought the prescribed sacrifices for their purification and sin offering. As they bring these offerings, two other examples of faithfulness appear on the scene. Simeon had faithfully waited for Israel’s consolation for years. Anna had committed herself to a life of worshiping the Lord faithfully with prayer and fasting. Now, Simeon could rejoice that he had seen the promised Christ child. Anna could joyfully speak of what God had done for those whom like her and Simeon, had been waiting for Israel’s redemption.

When reading the Christmas story, it is easy to see, and even focus on, the human examples of faithfulness we observe. Although we can find good earthly examples of faithfulness, a shift occurs when we read the Christmas narrative as one that highlights God’s faithfulness.

The Bible is clear that we all have sinned (Romans 3:23), and our track record is marked by unfaithfulness. We don’t uphold every law. We don’t fully love God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength. The good news of the gospel is that God covers our record of unfaithfulness and faithlessness with his perfect faithfulness. Then, and only then, can we experience God’s peace.

Peace with God is made possible because of the finished work of Christ, the One who lived and died as a faithful servant. This is a peace worth sharing with those who have yet to experience God’s saving redemption that comes through Jesus.

In this season of Advent, we celebrate that we no longer rely on our own faithfulness to experience God’s peace.

SUNDAY

*“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*

Read and reflect on Exodus 34:6

Write any thoughts you have about what the word “faithfulness” means.

Praise God that His character is one of steadfast love and faithfulness and that His character never changes!



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