

# STUMIN

## FAMILY DAILY DEVOTIONAL



FOR ALL PEOPLE | DECEMBER 6-12, 2023  
GOD IS WITH US.

*"Glory to God in the  
highest heaven,  
and on earth peace  
to those on whom his  
favor rests."*

Luke 2:14 NIV

### >> DECEMBER 6

One of the best ways to remember what the holiday season is all about is to memorize passages of Scripture that share the Christmas story. Every day, these verses can remind you of the Good News of great joy for all people: the birth of Jesus!

So, try memorizing Luke 2:14 by connecting it to something you love: snacks! (Because who doesn't love snacks?) Write it on a sticky note and attach it to the refrigerator or pantry door. Every time you go to grab a snack (ideally, a Christmas cookie), repeat the verse out loud to help you memorize it.

*"For I know the  
plans I have for you,"  
declares the Lord,  
"plans to prosper  
you and not to harm  
you, plans to give you  
hope and a future."*

Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

### >> DECEMBER 7

Have you ever hoped for something to go one way, but then it didn't? That time you didn't make the team, or didn't get the role you wanted in the school play, or didn't land the grade. Whenever life doesn't go as planned, we are faced with a choice: We can put our hope in our plans, or we can trust God's plans for our lives.

That's one great thing we can remember and celebrate at Christmas. God showed us thousands of years ago that there is a plan for all people, and that is still true today! With God, that's something we can trust every day!

What's one thing you need help trusting God with in your life? Right now, tell God about that thing. Then, ask for help in trusting God's plan in your life.

*May the God of hope  
fill you with all joy  
and peace as you  
trust in him,  
so that you may  
overflow with hope  
by the power of the  
Holy Spirit.*

Romans 15:13 NIV

### >> DECEMBER 8

From big dinners and class parties to church services and overpacked schedules, Christmas is often the busiest season of the year! And while all of those things are good and fun, when we fill our time with too many of them, we miss the chance to focus on what makes Christmas the best thing ever. We miss the chance to focus on Jesus!

Every day this week, find some time to spend with Jesus. Maybe journaling, praying, listening to music, or reading the Bible. Whatever it is for you, give yourself time to remember what Christmas is all about this year.

*The Lord delights in  
those who fear him,  
who put their hope  
in his unfailing love.*

*Psalms 147:11 NIV*

## >> DECEMBER 9

One of the reasons that Christmas can be so special is that it shows us just how much God loves us. As this verse reminds us, God delights in all God's people! It's a love that's unfailing. And to show us that love, God sent Jesus to Earth to be with us. His life is the ultimate example of God's unfailing love for us, and it's certainly something we can remember and celebrate not just at Christmas but every day!

So, try to remind yourself how much God loves you and remember what Christmas is all about.

Read a little more about the very first Christmas in the Bible this week. Check it out in Luke 2:1-20.

*Now faith is  
confidence in what  
we hope for and  
assurance about  
what we do not see.*

*Hebrews 11:1 NIV*

## >> DECEMBER 10

There may be moments when it's hard to put your faith in a God you can't actually see. That's a very real feeling! But the good news is, God gives us so many ways we can see God's Spirit at work in our lives.

Christmas is a great reminder of just that! In the lyrics of the songs we sing, in the love we feel from the people around us, in the generous gifts we receive, in the time we celebrate together at church, and in the Son that God sent to save us—all these things and more show us God at work in the lives of all people.

Today, make a list of ways you see God working in your life. Come back to it when you need to remember that Christmas is about the good God does for all God's people.

*For a child is born to  
us, a son is given to us.  
The government will  
rest on his shoulders.  
And he will be called:  
Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace.*

*Isaiah 9:6 NLT*

## >> DECEMBER 11

The writer of this verse says that "a child is born to US; a son is given to US." Another name for Jesus is Immanuel which literally means "God with us." Jesus was born to be with us. God wanted to have a relationship with us so much, that God came to Earth to be with us.

God cares about you deeply. God is there for you in your stress. God is mighty enough to take on your fear. God protects us and gives us peace when there is chaos. That's the best Christmas present any of us could ever imagine!

So in the busyness of Christmas, take a second right now to just breathe. As you inhale and exhale, remember that God is with you always, no matter what.

*"Glory to God in the  
highest heaven,  
and on earth peace  
to those on whom his  
favor rests."*

*Luke 2:14 NIV*

## >> DECEMBER 12

Glory is an interesting concept to think about. Most of the time we associate it with winning or being on top, and the attention received from reaching the highest level. In this scripture, angels are singing this statement over the shepherds after announcing the arrival of Jesus, the Messiah. They're making sure the source of this good news isn't missed. God is worthy of the highest glory, and this glorious God offered us peace and showed us God's favor and goodness by sending Jesus to earth.

So, this Christmas, keep in mind the God of the universe, full of glory. God's favor is on YOU. You have God's peace. And that is an incredible gift.