

Christmas Day Family Devotional

This devotional is intended to be shared with your family and friends before you sit down to open presents or eat your Christmas meal together. We hope you enjoy it and that it helps you celebrate Christmas together.

As we get up on Christmas morning there always seems to be something magical in the air. Most of us wake up early with anticipation of a great day. We are excited for the gifts that we will give and the gifts we will receive. We are excited for the people we will see and the time we will spend together. We wake up remembering that this is such a special day because of Jesus' birth! We remember the prophetic words given long before Jesus was born...



*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:
And the government shall be upon his shoulder:
And his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6 (KJV)*

We recount the story of Jesus' birth as He came in under the radar and although Israel was desperately awaiting His arrival, there was no room in the inn when He arrived. We see Him revealed to Joseph and Mary and then to the shepherds after the angels gave them the announcement of His birth!

"Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. 11 The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! 12 And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." Luke 2:10–12 (NLT)

2,000 years later we find ourselves in living rooms and dining rooms all across the world still celebrating that glorious and yet silent night. The day God came to be with mankind and redeem us from the sin debt that we carried. We celebrate the newborn King, not the king of Israel, but the King of Heaven and Earth, the King of kings and the Lord of lords! This amazing Savior came for me and for you. He came to make a way to God. In Paul's letter to Timothy he says this...

"This is good and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. 5 For there is only one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus. 6 He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone. This is the message God gave to the world at just the right time." 1 Timothy 2:3–6 (NLT)

So as we celebrate Christmas this year, remember the Savior- His humble beginning in the manger, His powerful resurrection from the grave and His desire to be our Mediator! Praise God that Jesus made a way for us to be forgiven. On this day we dedicate our lives to the Savior of mankind and say, "Thank you for giving your life to us and because of this, we give our lives to you!"

Happy Birthday Jesus and Merry Christmas one and all!

Christmas Day Family Prayer

Dear Lord, as we gather together with family and friends and celebrate the day you were born and showed your unconditional love to this world, we say thank you! Thank you for sending Jesus to be born in a manger in Bethlehem. Thank you for living a perfect life and for dying on the cross for our sins. Thank you for giving us the invitation of salvation that when we confess you as Lord and believe in you with our hearts, we receive forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternity in heaven. Thank you for the gift of family and friends that we can share this special day with. Thank you for the wealth we have that makes it possible for us to give gifts to one another in honor of the greatest gift ever given. Thank you for the great meal that we sit down to eat on this merry day! Lord as you have loved us, let us love and honor you this Christmas as we celebrate the ultimate love that is found in you. Be glorified in all we say and do today and always. We pray these things with gratitude and worship in Jesus' name, Amen.

