

THE SEASON OF

Advent

DEVOTIONAL

ORIGINAL DEVOTIONAL BY



EST. 2020

a note from Fearless Women

Hi Sister!

We're so glad you decided to celebrate advent with Fearless Women Ministries. Every Christmas we celebrate advent and this year, as our team prayed for our community of women, God laid it on our hearts to dive deeper on what the bible says about advent. Why should advent be celebrated? What does God want us to learn? How does God wants us to celebrate advent?

This short devotional will equip us on how to be open to what's coming, and arriving during the season of Christmas. But most importantly, to truly learning how the arrival of Jesus was destined since the beginning of the Word and as we celebrate His arrival, we can best live our lives for Him.

In this devotion you'll find a "Take Heart" section. In this note section, we reflect on John 16:33. "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

We want you to write down the areas of your life God wants you to take heart inventory in - Where do you need courage or confidence? How you can apply this learning in that area?

Buckle up, get to know our savior who came into the world as a baby, and create a space of peace for your heart and mind during a busy, and sometimes hard season.

Why do we celebrate Advent?

ad·vent: the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event.

Advent is a season observed in many Christian traditions, especially in the Western Church, leading up to Christmas.

It typically lasts for four weeks, beginning on the Sunday closest to November 30th (St. Andrew's Day) and ending on Christmas Eve. The word "advent" comes from the Latin word "adventus," which means "coming" or "arrival."

Advent is a time of anticipation and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Day One

Read Isaiah 7:14 with your table and write it down here. Circle anything that stands out to you.



Day One



Questions to discuss with your community:

- What is the significance of Advent, and how does it prepare us for the celebration of Christ's birth?

- How does the prophecy in Isaiah 7:14 relate to the Advent season, and how does it point to the birth of Jesus?

- Reflect on the concept of hope during Advent. Read Isaiah 9:6-7. What does this passage tell us about the nature and role of the Messiah?

Day One



- How have you seen the nature of our Messiah, Jesus, play a role in your life?

- What are some ways you hope He “shows up” in the description from Isaiah 9:6-7? What are some ways He has shown up in your life that you can point back to during times of despair or worry?

TAKE HEART

God sent Jesus so you could see and experience the roles described in Isaiah 9:6-7. He is our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. How can you remember this in areas of your life when fear and adversity hit?

How can I celebrate when this season is hard?

The Christmas season can be hard, but that doesn't mean it can't be holy. We anticipate the arrival of Jesus and celebrate his arrival into this world during Christmas but often forget to fix our focus on that throughout the year. God is calling us to celebrate advent season every day. How can we celebrate when life gets hard?

You know...when that prayer goes "unanswered" in the way you hoped it would; a painful event you never saw coming hit; you lose someone you love or what you planned takes a turn for the worse. Or maybe, you just don't have the energy to keep going. That's where we can rely on God to bring something out of unexpected places and remember who to rely on.

Day Two

Read Mark 6:1-6 and write down key points that stand out to you in this season.



Day Two



- Why do you believe people didn't give honor to Jesus in His own hometown? Are there areas in our lives where you struggle to give God honor? Do you rely on your own strength or achievements?

- Read John 1:46 and write it down here. Circle what stands out to you.

- God brought something better than good out of Nazareth - Jesus. In fact, Nathaniel said to Phillip, "Come and See." What do you believe God wants you to see this Christmas season? How does Mark 6:1-6 and John 1:46 intertwine?



Day Two

TAKE HEART

Romans 8:28 shares, “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” When this season may look like pain, God is working on your behalf. He sent Jesus to bear your pain of this sinful world, and took that pain and sin to the cross to save you. Write down a prayer of gratitude for who Jesus is to you.

Day Three

Read Luke 1:26-38, the annunciation of Jesus’ birth to Mary. Write down key points that stand out to you.

Day Three

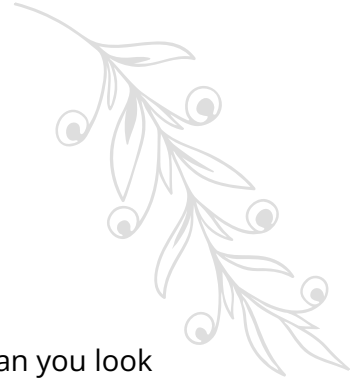


- What can we learn from Mary's response to the angel's message, and how can we apply her faith and obedience to our own lives?

- What areas in your life are you fearful God won't show up?

- Read Luke 1:39-56, the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth. How does this passage illustrate the joy brought by the coming of the Messiah?

Day Three



- When you feel that hope is lost, how can you look back on Luke 1:39-56 to remember where true joy comes from?

- Jesus was sent into the world as a baby, needing to be taken care of by Mary. How can you allow Jesus' arrival bring comfort of how God wants to take care of you?

TAKE HEART

Mary was afraid when the circumstances didn't add up. Jesus was sent into a world full of sin and pain, yet endured and overcame it all. Write down how these passages can remind you to rely on his joy and strength.

It's time you start your own study

Discover more readings that apply to advent, the arrival of Jesus and pray that God helps you see these stories in a new way.

Pray for God to clear any distractions or roadblocks from learning something new from stories you may have read or heard hundreds of times. Invite the Lord into your heart and ask him to open your mind to explore His wonders and miracles right in front of you.

It's time you make room, for the King of all Kings - the one who will never leave you, or forsake you. Fearless Women, we love you and are thankful to have been chosen with you by a King and Father like Jesus.

Advent Readings

- Read Matthew 2:1-12, the story of the Magi (Wise Men).
- Reflect on the role of John the Baptist during Advent. Read Luke 1:57-80.
- Read Luke 2:1-20, the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem.
- Explore the theme of love during Advent. Read John 3:16-17.

Leading up to Christmas

- Matthew 2:1-12: What do their actions and gifts symbolize, and how does this event emphasize the global significance of Jesus' birth?
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- Luke 1:57-80. How did John prepare the way for Jesus, and what can we learn from his life and ministry?
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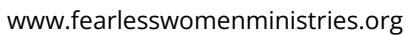
- Luke 2:1-20: What lessons can we draw from the humble circumstances of Jesus' birth, and how can this inspire us to focus on simplicity during Advent?
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- John 3:16-17. How does God's love for the world play a central role in the Advent story, and how can we share this love with others?
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