

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

## Christmas Lights / Week 1

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but **have eternal life**.

JOHN 3:16 NIV

### DAY 1

When Jesus came to Earth, He didn't come for a small set of people. He came to save the entire world. And guess what? That includes you and it includes them. Yes—even THOSE people! It may sound crazy, but Jesus came both to save everyone on Earth, and to offer each individual person the opportunity to experience a personal relationship with Him—a relationship that will be enjoyed fully and forever.

**Make a list of "those" people in your life and talk to God about how He loves them. Ask Him for ways you can better love them as well.** Whether it is your stepmom, basketball coach, or little brother, this challenge can make a big difference this Christmas season.

**All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name.**

PSALM 86:9 NIV

### DAY 2

Sometimes when we think of worship, music is the focus. But musical worship is not the ONLY way to worship God. Believe it or not, anything that glorifies God is an act of worship. Worshipping God can look like not popping off in algebra class, in the hours of studying you put forth towards the SAT this month, or in the ways you do, or don't, spend your time and treasure.

**Talk to a trusted adult today about one way they worship God – apart from music – and then invite them to Facetime or Zoom with you twice this week to worship in that way together.**

We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be **glorified** in you, and you in him,

2 THESSALONIANS 1:12A NIV

### DAY 3

We have an easy time glorifying – or dwelling on – that cute girl in math class, the new car we want, or even the boxes hiding under the tree. But what would it mean for us to dwell on, or glorify, Christ? Try going through your day looking for five ways to glorify God. You may be surprised at how it turns your day around!

**Today, find three ways to acknowledge your thoughts, actions, and words that glorify God.** You may even want to invite a friend to watch you for a day and have them share with you ways they saw you bringing glory. High school is hard, and learning to focus on God, or glorify Him, can be one way this Christmas season might just become merrier and brighter.

**Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name?** For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

REVELATION 15:4 NIV

#### DAY 4

At Christmas, everybody seems to get into the holiday spirit! There’s something magical about this time of year, and everyone is in a festive mood...most of the time. In heaven, we will see people from every edge of the globe worshipping God with the same joy of Christmas. We are going to get to share the joy of Christmas morning with every believer past, present, and future too!

**Today, take some time to pray for one person who is different from you—different culture, different race, or different beliefs—and ask God to give you one way to share the joy of Christmas with them before the year is up.**

Maybe don’t tell them, “I read this thing that told me to pray for someone different,” but for sure let them know you were thinking of them today to encourage them this season.

“I tell you,” he replied,  
“if they keep quiet,  
the stones will cry out.”

LUKE 19:40 NIV

#### DAY 5

Jesus promised that word was going to get out about His truth—even if that meant the rocks would be the ones sharing it. I don’t know about you, but it feels like talking rocks belong in kids’ movies.

Here’s the thing – whether we talk about God or not, He will make Himself known. That could be taken as, “well, then I don’t have to do the work!”. But we’re much more prone to listen to a human than a rock. **Make a list of ways you have to talk – your social media accounts, friends you text, YouTube/TikTok followers – and pray for courage to share twice this week about your faith, or how you are starting to explore your faith.**

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

LUKE 2:19 NIV

#### DAY 6

The Christmas season can be full of joy and also full of heaviness. Can you imagine being Mary? Fourteen years old, just gave birth to the long-awaited King, just got married, and is now living in a barn. Yay, Christmas?

Whether you are more like Mary or more like the shepherds in this story, you are invited to ponder; to think on all of the things and all of the feelings surrounding your life this Christmas. Invite a trusted adult or friend to have a real discussion on what you’re feeling this Christmas. **Work on naming at least three emotions with them.** Heavy? Happy? Sad? Longing? Whatever you’re feeling, know God can handle it!

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

LUKE 2:14 NIV

#### DAY 7

Create a TikTok sound with the verse and make up a dance to go with it. Tag three friends in the description or comments of the video to duet the video with you.