



# THE ADVENT

*Hope • Peace • Love • Joy*





# THE ADVENT

*Love in Christ*



Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

John 15:13





God Is Love —  
But What Am I?



Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.<sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 4:7-8





God Is Love — I  
Am the Recipient



# God Sent His Son

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that **God sent his only Son** into the world, **so that we might live** through him.

1 John 4:9



# God Sent His Son

For while we were still weak, at the right time **Christ died for the ungodly.**<sup>7</sup> For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—<sup>8</sup> but **God shows his love for us** in that while we were still sinners, **Christ died for us.**

Romans 5:6-8



# Jesus Laid Down His Life

even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Matthew 20:28



# Jesus Laid Down His Life

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, **he humbled himself** by becoming obedient to the **point of death, even death on a cross.**

Philippians 2:5-8



# Jesus Laid Down His Life

how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Hebrews 9:14



Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

John 15:13





God Is Love — I  
Am a Channel



# Love Like Jesus

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.  
12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

1 John 4:11-12



# Love Like Jesus: Love His Church

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.... 11

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

1 John 4:7,11



# Love Like Jesus: Love Our Enemies

Beloved, You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'<sup>44</sup> But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

Matthew 5:43-44



# Love Like Jesus: Love Our Enemies

For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—<sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:7-8



Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

John 15:13





God Is Love — I  
Am His Follower



# Understand His Heart

<sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.



# Die to Self

And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. <sup>24</sup> For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

Luke 9:23-24



# Be Others-Focused

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:3-4





Applying the Word



# Spiritual Health



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# Spiritual Health

- Diet: Feed on His Word



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# Spiritual Health

- Diet: Feed on His Word
- Exercise:



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# Spiritual Health

- Diet: Feed on His Word
- Exercise:
  - Cardio: Prayer (prayer and fasting)



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# Spiritual Health

- Diet: Feed on His Word
- Exercise:
  - Cardio: Prayer (prayer and fasting)
  - Muscular: Obey the Holy Spirit



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# Spiritual Health

- Diet: Feed on His Word
- Exercise:
  - Cardio: Prayer (prayer and fasting)
  - Muscular: Obey the Holy Spirit
- Rest: Sabbath



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# “Love” Checklist

Patient

Kind

Rejoice with the truth

Bear with people

Believe in people

Hope with people

Endure with people

Not envious

Not boastful

Not arrogant

Not rude

Not insisting on my way

Not irritable or resentful

Not rejoicing in wrongs