


25 DAYS TO
CHRISTMAS WITH

Jesus
Calling[®]



Prepare your heart for the season of Advent with our 25 Days to Christmas with *Jesus Calling*[®]. This free download features daily devotions from a variety of the *Jesus Calling*[®] books.

DAY 1

In Isaiah's prophecy about My birth, he referred to Me as *Eternal Father*. There is unity of essence in the Trinity, even though it is comprised of three Persons. When the Jews were questioning Me in the temple, I went so far as to say: "*I and the Father are one.*" Later, when Philip asked Me to show the Father to the disciples, I said: "*Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father.*" So never think of Me as just a great teacher. I am God, and the Father and I live in perfect unity.

As you come to know Me in greater depth and breadth, realize that you are also growing closer to the Father. Don't let the mysterious richness of the Trinity confuse you. Simply come to Me, recognizing that I am everything you could ever need Me to be. I—your only Savior—am sufficient for you.

In the midst of this busy Advent season, keep bringing your focus back to My holy Presence. Remember that *Immanuel* has come, and rejoice!

Isaiah 9:6 NASB; John 10:30; John 14:9; Matthew 1:23 NKJV

DAY 2

My Savior-God,

Help me to rest deeply in You, forgetting about the worries of the world. May Your living Presence envelop me in Peace as I focus on You—*Immanuel*. I find comfort in Your eternal security, knowing that *You are the same yesterday, today, and forever*.

Sometimes I live too much on the surface of life—focusing on ever-changing phenomena. If I consistently live this way, I eventually reach the point where I echo the sentiment of Solomon: “*Meaningless! Meaningless! Everything is meaningless.*”

I’m learning that the way to instill meaning into my days is to live in collaboration with You. I need to begin each day alone with You so I can experience the reality of Your Presence. As I spend time focusing on You and Your Word, I ask You to open up the way before me step by step. When I arise from this peaceful time of communion and begin my journey through the day, I’m aware that You go with me. I hold on to Your hand in deliberate dependence on You—and You smooth out the path before me. Thank You, Jesus!

In Your strong, dependable Name, Jesus,

Amen

Matthew 1:23; Hebrews 13:8 NKJV; Ecclesiastes 1:2; Proverbs 3:6 NASB

DAY 3

When an angel announced My birth to *shepherds living out in the fields* near Bethlehem, he told them: *Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great Joy.* The instruction to not be afraid is repeated in the Bible more than any other command. It is a tender, merciful directive—and it is for you! I know how prone to fear you are, and I do not condemn you for it. However, I do want to help you break free from this tendency.

Joy is a powerful antidote to fear! And the greater the Joy, the more effective an antidote it is. The angel's announcement to the shepherds was one of great Joy. Don't ever lose sight of what amazingly *good news* the gospel is! You repent of your sins and trust Me as Savior. I forgive all your sins, changing your ultimate destination from hell to heaven. Moreover, I give you *Myself*—lavishing My Love upon you, promising you My Presence forever. Take time to ponder the angel's glorious proclamation to the shepherds. *Rejoice in Me, beloved.*

Luke 2:8–10; 1 John 3:1; Philippians 4:4 NKJV

DAY 4

Merciful Lord Jesus,

I come to You, asking You to prepare my heart for the celebration of Your birth. Christmas is the time to exult in Your miraculous incarnation, when You—*the Word—became flesh and made Your dwelling among us*. You identified with mankind to the ultimate extent: becoming a Man and taking up residence in our world. I don't want to let the familiarity of this astonishing miracle diminish its effect on me. You are the Gift above all gifts, and *I rejoice in You!*

A delightful way of opening up my heart to You is to spend time pondering the wonders of Your entrance into human history. I want to view these events from the perspective of *shepherds living out in the fields* near Bethlehem, *keeping watch over their flocks at night*. They witnessed first one angel and then *a great company of the heavenly host* lighting up the sky, proclaiming: "*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth Peace to those on whom His favor rests.*"

Help me to gaze at the Glory of your birth, just as the shepherds did, and respond with childlike wonder.

In Your marvelous, wondrous Name,

Amen

Mark 1:3 NKJV; John 1:14; Philippians 4:4 NKJV; Luke 2:8, 13–14

DAY 5

I am *Immanuel*—*God with you* at all times. This promise provides a solid foundation for your Joy. Many people try to pin their pleasure to temporary things, but My Presence with you is eternal. Rejoice greatly, beloved, knowing that your Savior *will never leave you or forsake you*.

The nature of time can make it difficult for you to enjoy your life. On rare days when everything is going well, your awareness that the ideal conditions are fleeting can dampen your enjoyment of them. Even the most delightful vacation must eventually come to an end. Seasons of life also come and go, despite your longing at times to “stop the clock” and keep things just as they are.

Do not look down on temporary pleasures, but *do* recognize their limitations—their inability to quench the thirst of your soul. Your search for lasting Joy will fail unless you make *Me* the ultimate goal of your quest. *I will show you the path of Life. In My Presence is fullness of Joy.*

Matthew 1:23; Deuteronomy 31:8; Psalm 16:11 NKJV

DAY 6

Take time to be holy. The word *holy* does not mean *goody-goody*; it means *set apart for sacred use*. That is what these quiet moments in My Presence are accomplishing within you. As you focus your mind and heart on Me, you are being transformed: re-created into the one I designed you to be. This process requires blocks of time set aside for communion with Me.

The benefits of this practice are limitless. Emotional and physical healing are enhanced by your soaking in the Light of My Presence. You experience a nearness to Me that strengthens your faith and fills you with Peace. You open yourself up to receive the many blessings that I have prepared for you. You become a cleansed *temple of My Holy Spirit*, who is able to do in and through you *immeasurably more than you ask or imagine*. These are just some of the benefits of being still in My Presence.

2 Thessalonians 1:10; Psalm 27:4; 1 Corinthians 6:19; Ephesians 3:20

DAY 7

Exalted Jesus,

You are *the Light from on high that dawns upon us—to give Light to those who sit in darkness*. Sometimes my circumstances are so difficult and confusing that I feel as if I'm surrounded by darkness. My mind offers up various solutions to my problems, but I've already tried them—without success. So I fret and wonder what to do next, feeling powerless and frustrated. At times like this, I need to look up and see Your Light shining upon me. As I gaze at You in childlike trust, I find hope and rest in Your Presence.

Your Word teaches me to *cease striving and know that You are God*. Please help me to set aside my problem-solving efforts and relax with You—remembering that You are the *Prince of Peace*. I find it soothing to breathe in Your peaceful Presence with each breath I take. The more of You I absorb, the calmer I become. After resting with You for a while, I'm ready to *pour out my heart* about my troubles—trusting You to show me the way I should go.

Lord, please *guide my feet into the way of Peace*.

In Your worthy Name,

Amen

Luke 1:78–79 AMPC; Psalm 46:10 NASB; Isaiah 9:6 AMPC; Psalm 62:8

DAY 8

No matter how lonely you may feel, you are never alone. Christmas can be a hard time for people who are separated from loved ones. The separation may be a result of death, divorce, distance, or other causes. The holiday merriment around you can intensify your sense of aloneness. But all My children have a resource that is more than adequate to help them: My continual Presence.

Remember this prophecy about Me: *The virgin . . . will give birth to a Son, and they will call Him Immanuel— which means “God with us.”* Long before I was born, I was proclaimed to be the God who is *with you*. This is rock-solid truth that nobody and no circumstance can take away from you.

Whenever you’re feeling lonely, take time to enjoy My Presence. Thank Me for *wrapping you with a robe of righteousness* to make you righteous. Ask Me—*the God of hope*—to *fill you with Joy and Peace*. Then, through the help of My Spirit, you can *overflow with hope* into the lives of other people.

Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 61:10 NASB;
2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV; Romans 15:13

DAY 9

Rest in Me, My child, forgetting about the worries of the world. Focus on Me—Immanuel— and let My living Presence envelop you in Peace. Tune in to My eternal security, for *I am the same yesterday, today, and forever*. If you live on the surface of life by focusing on ever-changing phenomena, you will find yourself echoing the words of Solomon: *“Meaningless! Meaningless! Everything is meaningless!”*

Living in collaboration with Me is the way to instill meaning into your days. Begin each day alone with Me so that you can experience the reality of My Presence. As you spend time with Me, the way before you opens up step by step. Arise from the stillness of our communion, and gradually begin your journey through the day. Hold My hand in deliberate dependence on Me, and I will smooth out the path before you.

Matthew 1:22–23; Hebrews 13:8; Ecclesiastes 1:2; Proverbs 3:6

DAY 10

O Most High,

It is good to proclaim Your Love in the morning and Your faithfulness at night.

As I declare the wonders of Your loving Presence, I find strength and encouragement in You. This glorious blessing flows into me even more fully when I speak the words out loud. As I'm proclaiming Your Love, help me to *rejoice with Joy that's inexpressible and filled with Glory!*

Your amazing Love is sacrificial, unfailing, priceless, and boundless—*reaching to the heavens*. It shines so brightly that it can carry me through all my days, even the darkest ones.

When I get to the end of each day, it's time to declare Your faithfulness that *reaches to the skies*. As I look back over the day, I can see how skillfully You guided me and opened up the way before me. The more difficulties I encountered, the more You enabled, empowered, and equipped me to overcome the obstacles.

It is good to give voice to Your great faithfulness, especially at night, so that I can *lie down and sleep in peace*.

In Your peaceful Name, Jesus,

Amen

Psalm 92:1–2; 1 Peter 1:8 ESV; Psalm 36:5; Psalm 4:8

DAY 11

I am the Light of the world! Many people celebrate Advent season by illuminating their homes with candles and decorated trees. This is a way of symbolizing My coming into the world—eternal Light breaking through the darkness and opening up the way to heaven. Nothing can reverse this glorious plan of salvation. All who trust Me as Savior are adopted into My royal family forever!

My Light shines on in the darkness, for the darkness has never overpowered it. No matter how much evil and unbelief you see in this dark world, I continue to shine brightly—a beacon of hope to those who have eyes that really see. So it's crucial to look toward the Light as much as possible. *Fix your eyes on Me*, beloved! Through thousands of good thought-choices, you can find Me—"see" Me—as you journey through this life. My Spirit can help you persevere in the delightful discipline of keeping your eyes on Me. *Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness but will have the Light of Life.*

John 8:12; Ephesians 1:5 NLT; John 1:5 AMP; Hebrews 12:2

DAY 12

Do not be weighed down by the clutter in your life: lots of little chores to do some time, in no particular order. If you focus too much on these petty tasks, trying to get them all out of the way, you will discover that they are endless. They can eat up as much time as you devote to them.

Instead of trying to do all your chores at once, choose the ones that need to be done today. Let the rest slip into the background of your mind so I can be in the forefront of your awareness. Remember that your ultimate goal is living close to Me, being responsive to My initiatives. I can communicate with you most readily when your mind is uncluttered and turned toward Me. Seek My Face continually throughout this day. Let My Presence bring order to your thoughts, infusing Peace into your entire being.

Proverbs 16:3; Matthew 6:33; Psalm 27:8 NKJV; Isaiah 26:3 NKJV

DAY 13

Eternal God,

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. You are the Word that became flesh— You have always been, and You will always be. Help me not to lose sight of Your divinity as I celebrate Your birth.

I'm so thankful that You grew up to become the Man-Savior who is God Almighty! If You were not God, Your sacrificial life and death would have been insufficient to provide salvation. I rejoice that You, who entered the world as a helpless infant, are the very same One who brought the world into existence.

Though You were rich, for my sake You became poor, so that through Your poverty I might become rich. No Christmas present could ever compare with the infinite treasure I have in You! Because of You, my sins have been removed as far as the east is from the west—freeing me from all condemnation. You have gifted me with unimaginably glorious Life that will never end! Thank You, Lord, for this breathtaking Gift; I embrace it joyously and gratefully.

In Your supreme Name, Jesus,

Amen

John 1:1, 14; Hebrews 1:2 HCSB;
2 Corinthians 8:9 NASB; Psalm 103:12 NKJV

DAY 14

Those who wait upon Me will gain new strength. Spending time alone with Me is so good for you, but it is increasingly countercultural. Multitasking and staying busy have become the norm. During the Advent season, there are even *more* things to be done and places to go. So I encourage you to break free from all the activity and demands for a while. *Seek My Face* and enjoy My Presence, remembering that Christmas is all about *Me*.

Waiting upon Me is an act of faith—trusting that prayer really does make a difference. *Come to Me with your weariness and burdens*, being candid and real with Me. *Rest* in My Presence, and tell Me about your concerns. Let Me lift the burdens from your aching shoulders. Trust that *I am able to do exceedingly abundantly above all you ask or think*.

As you arise from these quiet moments, hear Me whispering “I am with you” throughout the day. Rejoice in the *new strength* you have gained through spending time with Me.

Isaiah 40:31 NASB; Psalm 27:8 NKJV; Matthew 11:28; Ephesians 3:20 NKJV

DAY 15

Come to Me, and rest in My Presence. As you ponder the majestic mystery of the Incarnation, relax in My everlasting arms. I am the only Person who was ever *sired* by the Holy Spirit. This is beyond your understanding. Instead of trying to comprehend My Incarnation intellectually, learn from the example of the wise men. They followed the leading of a spectacular star, then fell down in humble worship when they found Me.

Praise and worship are the best responses to the wonder of My Being. Sing praises to My holy Name. Gaze at Me in silent adoration. Look for a star of guidance in your own life, and be willing to follow wherever I lead. *I am the Light from on high that dawns upon you, to guide your feet into the way of Peace.*

Luke 1:35; John 1:14;

Matthew 2:10–11 NKJV; Luke 1:78–79 AMP

DAY 16

Gracious God,

The Bible promises that *those who wait for You will gain new strength*. I love to spend time waiting in Your Presence, even though multitasking and staying busy have become the norm. During the Advent season, there are *more* things to do than usual. Please help me break free for a while from all the activity and demands. As I *seek Your Face* and enjoy Your Presence, I ponder the essential truth that Christmas is all about *You*.

Waiting with You is an act of faith—trusting that prayer really does make a difference. So I *come to You with my weariness and burdens*, being candidly real with You. While I rest in Your Presence and tell You about my concerns, You lift heavy burdens from my aching shoulders. I'm grateful that *You are able to do immeasurably more than all I ask or imagine!*

As I arise from these quiet moments with You, I delight in hearing You whisper, "I am with you." And I rejoice in the *new strength* gained through spending time with You.

In Your energizing Name, Jesus,

Amen

Isaiah 40:31 NASB; Psalm 105:4 NASB; Matthew 11:28; Ephesians 3:20

DAY 17

Prepare your heart for the celebration of My birth. Listen to the voice of John the Baptist: *“Prepare the way for the Lord; make straight paths for Him.”*

Christmas is the time to exult in My miraculous incarnation, when *the Word became flesh and dwelt among you*. I identified with mankind to the ultimate extent—becoming a Man and taking up residence in your world. Don't let the familiarity of this astonishing miracle dull its effect on you. Recognize that I am the Gift above all gifts, and *rejoice in Me!*

Clear out clutter and open up your heart by pondering the wonders of My entrance into human history. View these events from the perspective of the shepherds, who were keeping watch over their flocks at night. They witnessed first one angel and then *a multitude* of them lighting up the sky, proclaiming: *“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth Peace among those with whom He is pleased!”* Gaze at the Glory of my birth, just as the shepherds did, and respond with childlike wonder.

Mark 1:3; John 1:14 ESV; Philippians 4:4 NKJV; Luke 2:13–14 ESV

DAY 18

I am King of kings and Lord of lords, dwelling in dazzlingly bright Light! I am also your Shepherd, Companion, and Friend—the One who never lets go of your hand. Worship Me in My holy Majesty; come close to Me, and rest in My Presence. You need Me both as God and as Man. Only My Incarnation on that first, long-ago Christmas could fulfill your neediness. Since I went to such extreme measures to save you from your sins, you can be assured that I will *graciously give you all you need.*

Nurture well your trust in Me as Savior, Lord, and Friend. I have held back nothing in My provision for you. I have even deigned to live within you! Rejoice in all that I have done for you, and My Light will shine through you into the world.

1 Timothy 6:15–16; Psalm 95:6–7; Romans 8:32; 2 Peter 1:19

DAY 19

Glorious Jesus,

As I wait attentively in Your Presence, *the Light of the knowledge of Your Glory* shines upon me. This radiant knowledge utterly transcends my understanding. Moreover, it transforms my entire being—renewing my mind, cleansing my heart, invigorating my body. Help me to open myself fully to Your glorious Presence!

I cannot imagine what You gave up when You came into our world as a baby. You set aside Your Glory so that You could identify with mankind—with me. You accepted the limitations of infancy under appalling conditions: born in a stable, with a feeding trough for Your crib. There was nothing glorious about the setting of Your birth, even though angels lit up the sky proclaiming “Glory!” to awestruck shepherds.

Sitting quietly with You, I experience the reverse of what You went through. *You became poor so that I might become rich.* As I draw nearer to You, heaven’s vistas open up before me—granting me glimpses of Your Glory. O Lord, I sing hallelujahs to Your holy Name!

In Your sacred Name,

Amen

2 Corinthians 4:6; Philippians 2:6–7; Luke 2:13–14; 2 Corinthians 8:9 NKJV

DAY 20

I am *the Word that became flesh*. I have always been, and I will always be. *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God*. As you think about Me as a baby, born in Bethlehem, do not lose sight of My divinity. This baby who grew up and became a Man-Savior is also God Almighty! It could not have been otherwise. My sacrificial life and death would have been insufficient if I were not God. So rejoice that *the Word*, who entered the world as a helpless infant, is the same One who brought the world into existence.

Though I was rich, for your sake I became poor, so that you might become rich. No Christmas present could ever compare with the treasure you have in Me! I remove your sins *as far as the east is from the west*—freeing you from all condemnation. I gift you with unimaginably glorious Life that will never end! The best response to this astonishing Gift is to embrace it joyfully and gratefully.

John 1:1, 14; Hebrews 1:1–2; 2 Corinthians 8:9 NASB; Psalm 103:12 NKJV

DAY 21

I speak to you from the depths of eternity. *Before the world was formed, I am!* You hear Me in the depths of your being, where I have taken up residence. *I am Christ in you, the hope of Glory.* I, your Lord and Savior, am alive within you. Learn to tune in to My living Presence by seeking Me in silence.

As you celebrate the wonder of My birth in Bethlehem, celebrate also your rebirth into eternal life. This everlasting gift was the sole purpose of My entering your sin-stained world. Receive My gift with awe and humility. Take time to explore the vast dimensions of My Love. Allow thankfulness to flow freely from your heart in response to My glorious gift. *Let My Peace rule in your heart, and be thankful.*

Psalm 90:2 AMP; Colossians 1:27; John 3:3; Colossians 3:15

DAY 22

Precious Lord Jesus,

When an angel announced Your birth to *shepherds living out in the fields* near Bethlehem, he told them: “*Do not be afraid. I bring you good tidings of great Joy.*” This command to not be afraid is repeated frequently throughout the Bible. Thank You for providing this tender, merciful directive. You know how prone to fear I am, yet You do not condemn me for it. However, I do want to break free from my inclination to be fearful.

I’ve discovered that Joy is a powerful antidote to fear. And the greater the Joy, the more effective an antidote it is. The angel’s announcement to the shepherds was one of *great Joy*! Help me never to lose sight of what amazingly good news the gospel is!

The moment I trusted You as my Savior, You forgave *all* my sins—past, present, and future. This glorious gift of grace ensures that my ultimate destination is heaven. Moreover, You gave me *Yourself*—the greatest treasure of all! You lavished Your Love on me and promised me Your Presence forever. As I ponder the angel’s wondrous proclamation to the shepherds, I *rejoice in You*, my beloved Savior.

In Your magnificent Name,

Amen

Luke 2:8–10 NKJV; Ephesians 2:8 ESV; Philippians 4:4

DAY 23

I am the greatest Gift imaginable! When you have Me, you have everything you need—for this life and the next. I have promised to *meet all your needs according to My glorious riches*. Yet My loved ones sometimes fail to enjoy the riches I provide because of an ungrateful attitude. Instead of rejoicing in all that they have, they long for what they do not have. As a result, they become discontented.

I'm training you to practice *the sacrifice of thanksgiving*—thanking Me *in all circumstances*. First, give thanks for the blessings you can see in your life. Then stop and ponder the awesome gift of knowing Me. I am your living God, your loving Savior, your constant Companion. No matter how much or how little you have in this world, your relationship with Me makes you immeasurably rich. So whenever you are counting your blessings, be sure to include the infinite wealth you have in Me. Add Me into the equation, and your gratitude will grow exponentially. Whatever you have + Me = an incalculable fortune!

Philippians 4:19; Psalm 116:17 NKJV; 1 Thessalonians 5:18

DAY 24

As you wait attentively in My Presence, *the Light of the knowledge of My Glory shines upon you*. This radiant knowledge transcends all understanding. It transforms every fiber of your being: renewing your mind, cleansing your heart, invigorating your body. Open yourself fully to My Presence; be awed by My glorious Being.

Try to imagine what I gave up when I came into your world as a baby. I set aside My Glory so that I could identify with mankind. I accepted the limitations of infancy under the most appalling conditions—a filthy stable. There was nothing glorious about that setting, though angels lit up the sky proclaiming, “Glory!” to awestruck shepherds.

When you sit quietly with Me, the process I went through is reversed in your experience. As you identify with Me, heaven’s vistas open up before you—granting you glimpses of My Glory. *I became poor so that you might become rich*. Sing hallelujahs to My holy Name!

2 Corinthians 4:6; Philippians 2:6–7; Luke 2:13–14; 2 Corinthians 8:9

DAY 25

King Jesus,

You are *King of kings and Lord of lords; You dwell in unapproachable Light!* I'm grateful that You are also my Shepherd, Companion, and Friend—the One who never lets go of my hand. I worship You in Your holy Majesty. And I draw near You to rest in Your loving Presence. I need You both as God and as Man. Only Your birth on that first, long-ago Christmas could meet all my needs.

Instead of trying to comprehend Your incarnation intellectually, I want to learn from the example of the wise men. They followed the leading of a spectacular star, then fell down in humble worship in Your Presence. Inspired by the magi, I long to respond to the wonder of Your holy birth with ardent adoration.

Please help me grow in my capacity to worship You as my Savior, Lord, and King. You held back nothing in Your amazing provision for me, and I rejoice in all that You are—all You have done!

You are *the Light from on high that dawns upon us, to direct and guide our feet into the way of Peace.*

In Your majestic Name,

Amen

1 Timothy 6:15–16;
Matthew 2:10–11 NKJV; Luke 1:78–79 AMPC