

**Daily Reflection on Scripture**  
**Week of December 9**  
**Advent Series - Silent Night:**  
**A Season of Peace, Wonder, Love and Grace**  
**Week 2: Wonder**



**This Week's Affirmation:**

Before you begin your day take a slow breath in and then release it as you speak this affirmation:  
**The wonders of God are revealed in the world around me every day.**

**Sunday December 9**

*Scripture: Luke 5:26 (NIV) Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with wonder and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."*

**Morning Prayer:** God, sometimes I see people who seem to be happy all the time. How can that be? I don't always feel that way. Maybe I have lost my sense of wonder. I am so preoccupied with things to do and overwhelmed by the things that I hear that I fail to see the wonder that others must be seeing. Help me to slow down today and look around me and begin to wonder at the beauty that is always there yet I miss seeing and feeling because I fail to pause long enough to see it or feel it. May I be filled with the wonder of Your love expressed in smiles, in the helping of another, in a hug, in a sunrise or sunset, in a simple yet delicious meal, in a kind word. At the end of today may I pause and say, "I have seen remarkable things today." May it be so.

**Noon Text:** All around you is the wonder of God's love being revealed in simple ways. Quiet the negative voices and then your eyes will be opened to see it more clearly.

**Evening Text:** God, today I have seen remarkable things. In kind words, acts of service, in the sun rising and setting my heart is full of wonder and now I am able to rest.

**Monday December 10**

*Scripture: Matthew 18:3 And He said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."*

**Morning Prayer:** God, at this season I see all round me the excitement of children. The anticipation, surprises and magical atmosphere of the season fill them with delight. Their joy and enthusiasm is infectious, but sometimes it is hard to hold onto a childlike sense of wonder when the demands of the season are all too real. I need Your help to gently guide my attention back to what is most important. The frost on my windowpane, the miracle of a unique snowflake, the brilliant stars in the clear December night sky, the smile of a friend, or a stranger are all wondrous when I stop to observe and appreciate them. I want to experience this holiday season through the eyes of my inner child. May it be so.

**Noon Text:** Pause and take a moment to be grateful for all that you have experienced today. Every moment is a gift of wonder. Hold onto it then a sense of wonder.

**Evening Text:** I remember how it felt to be a child going to bed, anticipating what the next day would bring. May I rest well with a sense of hope in my heart tonight.

## **Tuesday December 11**

*Scripture: Exodus 15:11 Who among the gods is like you, Lord? Who is like you— majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders.*

**Morning Prayer:** God, as I begin my day, before I get caught up in the busyness of it, I take a moment to contemplate Your incredible universe. The words of today's scripture barely begin to describe how awesome it is. It seems like my life is always busy but even more so in this season of Advent. It is all too easy to get caught up in the preparations for Christmas and miss the wonder of it all. Help me today to be ever mindful of the majesty of Your creation and the incredible gift of the Christ Child. May it be so.

**Noon Text:** As you go about your day, are you practicing patience with everyone you encounter? Pause, share the wonder and love of this incredible season with others.

**Evening Text:** God, my day is over. I come to rest reflecting on the many ways I encountered You this day. In the beauty of the places and the people, I saw Your majesty.

## **Wednesday December 12**

*Scripture: Psalm 8:3-4 (NIV) When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?*

**Morning Prayer:** Gazing into the majesty and mystery of the night sky never fails to bring me a sense of wonder and awe. The vastness of it could make me feel small, but it doesn't. It fills me with a sense of wonder and awe to know that I am part of the grand design of our marvelous universe. My life, my every breath, dream and hope are part of the endless web of life that makes up the cosmos. I see the nature of God revealed in all of creation and it is good. Today I will look more closely at the natural world around me. With open eyes, and open heart I will celebrate the many ways we are connected to each other and all things. May it be so.

**Noon text:** You are connected to all of creation. That deep connection will help you to live a compassionate life. Practice compassion today, starting with yourself.

**Evening Text:** As I prepare for rest tonight I will remember that even in the vastness of your universe You are mindful of me. I am thankful for Your love and care for me.

## **Thursday December 13**

*Scripture: Romans 1:20 ESV For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.*

**Morning Prayer:** God, teach me not to take for granted the beauty of the world around me. The wonders of the majestic mountains, the vast oceans and the vibrant plant life with its beauty and resilience. Let me see in these wonders the handiwork of Your creation and the manifestation of Your love for us. May it be so.

**Noon Text:** God, give me the resilience of the mighty mountain that is firmly grounded in the earth and whose peak stretches toward the heavens.

**Evening Text:** God, as the day draws to a close, bring to my mind's eye the beauty of Your creation and to my soul the resilience of Your love.

### **Friday December 14**

*Scripture: Colossians 2:2 ESV That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ. (maintaining a sense of wonder about the nature of God.)*

**Morning Prayer:** God, this is the season of Advent, a season of anticipation of the birth of the Christ Child, Your gift to Your children. Sometimes, the love You have for me is simply too big to fathom. It can be so easy to be pulled away and distracted by the hype that surrounds this season, the hype that says buy this or buy that, that things can make our lives better. Help me stay focused on the reality that You are all I need. It is a joy to be able to share gifts with others this season, but the most important gift to share is Your love. May it be so.

**Noon Text:** Pause, take a moment to look around and take in your surroundings wherever you find yourself in the moment. Look with childlike wonder at God's creation.

**Evening Text:** The week has drawn to an end. I am so grateful God, to have experienced the wonder of Your great love revealed in the people and places around me.

### **Saturday December 15**

*Scripture: Psalm 65:8 ESV So that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs. You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.*

**Morning Prayer:** God, today may my heart sing Joy to the world. Joy for the simple things. The taste of food. The laughter of a child. The holding of a door open for another. The breeze on my face. The Christmas tree in a window. The Christmas music in a store. Today make my going out in the morning and my coming in in the evening a day wherein I see reasons to shout for joy! May it be so.

**Noon Text:** Your heart and the hearts of others are changed through simple acts of kindness. Practice kindness and it ripples around the world with joy. Joy to the world.

**Evening Text:** God, I began my day with a determination to see joy all around me. Now, I can rest with a joyful heart. I will close my eyes while singing Joy to the World.