

Daily Reflection on Scripture
Week of December 23
Advent Series - Silent Night:
A Season of Peace, Wonder, Love and Grace
Week 4: Grace



This Week's Affirmation:

Before you begin your day take a slow breath in and then release it as you speak this affirmation:
Wherever I am, God meets me with gifts of grace.

Sunday December 23

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:10 I am what I am by God's grace, and God's grace hasn't been for nothing.... the grace of God that is with me.

Morning Prayer: God, whenever I hear the word grace I immediately think of the song Amazing Grace. For me those two words describe who You are for me. Grace upon grace upon grace. Thank you for meeting me in the ordinary and extraordinary with compassion and love. Your grace is truly amazing and never ending. May I be the presence of grace to those I meet today. May I live my life in such a way that I leave a legacy of grace behind. May it be so.

Noon Text: Pause and breathe in the words, God's grace. Slowly release your breath saying, is never ending. May this reminder of God's grace hold you throughout the day.

Evening Text: God of grace, love and compassion, all day long you have walked with me. Now as I prepare to rest I know Your grace, love and compassion will comfort me.

Monday December 24

Scripture: John 1:16-17 From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace; as the Law was given through Moses, so grace and truth came into being through Jesus Christ.

Morning Prayer: God, the grace that You offer to us is nearly unimaginable to my human mind and imagination. It is endless, boundless, free flowing grace that continues to surround and uplift me every moment of every day. I admit that I don't know how that looks in my own human relationships. It was given living form and reality in Jesus, so I believe it is possible to experience this unending grace in the give and take of my everyday relationships. So, on this Christmas Eve I hold Your grace and truth, as revealed in the gift of Jesus as my prayer for myself and for all people. Let the peace of Christ reign in our hearts. May it be so.

Noon Text: Pause. Look around you. Are there opportunities to offer love, hope or forgiveness? Offer them freely and often for they are the true gifts of Christmas.

Evening Text: The true message of Christmas is "Peace on Earth". On this Christmas Eve pause to pray for peace of mind and heart for yourself and for the world.

Tuesday December 25

Scripture: Luke 2:10-11 The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord.

Morning Prayer: Gracious God, it is the day of good news. Our wait is over. It's Christmas. We receive Your great gift of Christ our Lord and Savior. Now let us share the wondrous love and grace of Jesus with all people. As much as we receive Your loving grace let us extend it to all people, particularly those who are struggling, whether it be physically, emotionally, spiritually, financially or in other ways. For some, today is not a day of celebration but just another day to get through. So in the midst of our own joy and celebration let us be mindful that Your love and grace is to be extended to all people. May it be so.

Noon Text: It can be a busy, chaotic day. Pause for a moment and give thanks for the gift of grace that surrounds us. Extend that grace to everyone you are with today.

Evening Text: God, I'm tired but in a good way after celebrating Christmas today. So I come to rest now, secure in Your love. I give thanks to You for the gift of Jesus.

Wednesday December 26

Scripture: Titus 2:11 The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people.

Morning Prayer: God, I am thankful for the gift of Your saving grace for all people. This season reminds us that through the gift of Jesus, and all that his message brings to us, we can experience Your perfect love and grace every day. I want to carry those gifts forward into the world every day of my life. May it be so.

Noon text: Where might you need to be met by God's gifts of grace today? Be assured that wherever that is, God is meeting you there today and always.

Evening Text: Tonight I'm weary from the pace of the season. I'm grateful for it all, but now I release all but my gratitude for the gift of Jesus, and rest in Your care.

Thursday December 27

Scripture: II Peter 3:18 ...grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. To him belongs glory now and forever. Amen.

Morning Prayer: God, let me experience the grace that is the cornerstone of the message and person of Christ. Teach me not just to see grace as a word but to experience it as the essence of our relationship with Christ. Open my eyes to grace as love, forgiveness, gentleness, service, hope, light and meaning. Let me not just receive grace but show it towards others - especially those with whom I struggle. May it be so.

Noon Text: God, open my eyes to the beauty, the hope and the love that is the gift of grace through Christ Jesus.

Evening Text: God, as the day draws to a close, let me bathe in the warmth and rest in the comfort of grace through Jesus Christ.

Friday December 28

Scripture: II Corinthians 9:8 God has the power to provide you with more than enough of every kind of grace. That way, you will have everything you need always and in everything to provide more than enough for every kind of good work.

Morning Prayer: God, the words of today's scripture serve to remind me that I do have enough. It is all too easy to think I don't have enough - money, stuff, whatever. That's usually because I allow myself to focus on those things that are not really important. Help me to look at what is really important in my life and recognize the real wealth of what I have. Your gift of grace provides what I

need. Now let me share that love and grace with others who have far less than what I have. Let me not be stingy with my own “stuff”. Let me extend a helping hand, or a simple word of encouragement to others. May it be so.

Noon Text: Pause and take stock. Remind yourself that in God’s grace you have what you need today. You have enough to share with others, especially love and grace.

Evening Text: God, an eventful week of joyous celebration is winding down. I prepare to rest holding on, with gratitude, to the gift of Your love and grace in Jesus. Thank you.

Saturday December 29

Scripture: II Peter 1:2 May you have more and more grace and peace through the knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord.

Morning Prayer: God, this week has been filled with so many emotions. One moment I was energized by all the excitement of the season; the next moment I was tired from all the excitement of the season. Yet no matter if I was feeling up or down Your grace was constant. The real gift of Christmas is knowing that during both highs or lows You have come to meet us with skin on. It all began with the baby Jesus and now you come as a gift of grace through family, friends, acquaintances and even strangers. May I be filled with more and more of Your love so that I can be grace with skin on to others today. May it be so.

Noon Text: Grace - the unmerited favor of God. God’s grace is most evident through acts of kindness. Receive God’s unmerited favor, then be God’s grace through kindness.

Evening Text: God, with gratitude I prepare to rest. I am thankful for this season that reminds me that the light of love is brighter than the darkness I see around me.