HE ALONE SWORTHY COMPANION GUIDE

CHURCH

ASHLEE JOHNSON

We are thrilled that you're joining us for this Advent journey through the Scriptures as we proclaim together that

HE ALONE IS WORTHY!

The following dig deeper questions and prayer prompts are designed to go along with the Advent Scripture reading plan provided by She Reads Truth and He Reads Truth. You will need to access their Scripture reading plan to go along with this booklet. (Notice that study questions are provided Monday - Friday. Saturdays feature a short verse to meditate on and Sundays a prayer.) You can access the Scriptures in 1 of 2 ways:

1. Sign up to receive the Scripture reading plan in your email inbox daily for FREE.



2. Purchase the He Reads Truth or She Reads Truth Advent book. There is one version for women and one for men. They contain the same Scriptures, but have different looks. The books are full color and include substantial biblical resources and festive extras. We have a limited amount of books available at each campus on Sunday mornings for a discounted price of \$25. If we run out of books, they can be purchased via these links.

She Reads Truth:



We have Advent groups offered at every campus! Co-ed, men's, and women's gatherings are available at a variety of times and places. We encourage you to register for a group via the website below and enjoy rich fellowship and conversation around these Scriptures during Advent!



He Reads Truth:





2. Though life can feel gloomy, what are the practical implications of Jesus saying, "Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life?"

3. Given the biblical context of the other passages we're reading today, who is the LORD talking to in Isaiah 42:6?

4. What encouragement do the verses from 2 Corinthians provide regarding sharing the gospel with those who don't know Christ?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer asking Jesus to come and light up any darkened areas in your life or sphere of influence.



Day 3 (Tuesday, Dec. 5) - Man from Heaven, Come

1. What tactics did the serpent use to tempt Eve?

2. Note all of the places in today's passages that the concept of "reigning" or the word "reign" occurs. Jot down the mentions (and notice that some verses contain more than one). What do you learn about God's redemptive plan by meditating on these verses together?

Gen. 2:15 -

Rom. 5:14 -

Rom. 5:17 -

Rom. 5:21 -

3. Contrast the "first man" with the "second man" from today's 1 Corinthians passages.

First Man

4. What statement or phrase in today's reading gives you the most hope?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer praising Jesus as the Man from Heaven who accomplished what you never could.

Last Man

Day 4 (Wednesday, Dec. 6) - Blessing for All People, Come

1. Do a little online research to determine the meaning of the names Abram, Abraham, Sarai, and Sarah. What is the significance of these name changes?

2. Make note of all the places in the John 8 passage in which the Jews misunderstand Jesus.

3. How does Paul define what it means to be included as Abraham's sons in the Galatians verses? How does this truth contrast with the view of the Jews in John 8?

4. According to Galatians 3, how did Jesus make a way for those who are not ethnically Jewish to be included in the family of God?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer asking God to bring people from all over the world - from every tribe, tongue, and nation - to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

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1. From what we read yesterday, why do you think Abraham replied to Isaac's question with such confidence?

2. Underline or note all the occurrences of "father" and "son" throughout today's passages. What is the significance of these parallels?

3. Compare and contrast Jesus and Isaac.

4. What part of "everything" or "all things" from Romans 8:32 is difficult to believe God will provide in your life?

5. **Prayer Prompt:** Write a prayer thanking the Lord for specific ways that he's provided for you lately.

Day 6 (Friday, Dec. 8) - Perfect Sacrifice, Come

1. Who are the people and what are the places for which the Lord required the priests to atone?

2. What questions do you have about the Leviticus passages? Or what is most striking to you about them?

3. After reading the verses from John, Hebrews, and 2 Corinthians, take note of the ways in which Jesus was the true and better sacrifice than any offered in the Old Testament.

4. According to the 1 Peter passage, what has the Lamb of God accomplished for us?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer praising Jesus as the Perfect Sacrifice.



Day 8 (Sunday, Dec. 10) - The Second Sunday of Advent

Day 9 (Monday, Dec. 11) - Bread of Life, Come

1. Read slowly through the complaint of the Israelites in Exodus 16:3. What emotions and/or doubts do you sense were beneath their grumbling?

2. Spend some time sitting honestly before the Lord. Are there places of discontent and grumbling for which you need to repent?

3. What did the Lord want his people to know as a result of his miraculous provision in the wilderness?

4. Compare and contrast what you learn about the manna given to the Israelites in the desert and Jesus as the Bread of Life.

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer asking Jesus for provision and sustenance where you need it.

Day 7 (Saturday, Dec. 9) - Grace Day

Day 10 (Tuesday, Dec. 12) - Living Water, Come

1. Instead of simply asking God for provision, what complaints/questions did the Israelites make to Moses and of the Lord?

2. Note all that you learn about "living water" from John 4.

3. Taking into consideration all that you learn about the Samaritan woman in John 4, how do you imagine she felt when she heard Jesus say, "I, the one speaking to you, am he" (John 4:26)?

4. As we read these passages back to back, what differences do you see between God's provision of water in the Old Testament and Jesus' provision in the New?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer asking Jesus to refresh you where you are weary and to quench deep thirsts where you are dry.



Day 11 (Wednesday, Dec. 13) - Restorer of Life, Come

1. Is there anything surprising or perplexing to you about the passage from Numbers?

2. How were the Israelite people saved from the poisonous snakes?

3. Nicodemus begins his interaction with Jesus not with a question but rather a statement. What question do you think was underneath his statement and how does Jesus address his underlying concern?

4. Take a look in your Bible at 2 Corinthians 5:21 and Galatians 3:13 to help you interpret Jesus' final statement to Nicodemus in today's passage from John. Why is it that Jesus must be lifted up like the snake in the desert and how does eternal life come to those who believe in him?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer praising Jesus as the Restorer of Life.



Day 12 (Thursday, Dec. 14) - Righteous Mediator, Come

1. What do you learn about God's heart behind the law from Deuteronomy 6?

2. According to Deuteronomy 6:25, how would the people of God attain righteousness through the law?

3. How did Jeremiah prophesy that the new covenant would be different from the old covenant?

4. The Easton Bible Dictionary defines "mediator" as "one who intervenes between two persons who are at variance, with a view to reconcile them." How did Jesus show himself as the Righteous Mediator at the institution of the Lord's Supper?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer thanking Jesus for making you right with God.





Day 13 (Friday, Dec. 15) - Great High Priest, Come

1. Use a dictionary to define atonement and take note of all the things for which the high priest would make atonement as listed in the selections from Leviticus.

2. In the Leviticus 16 passage, why do you think the Lord commands the people to have a "Sabbath of complete rest" while atonement was made for them?

3. What is it about Jesus' unique priesthood that allows us to approach him with boldness when we have needs?

4. How does Jesus differ from other priests?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer expressing your needs, cares, and concerns to your Great High Priest.

Day 14 (Saturday, Dec. 16) - Grace Day



Day 15 (Sunday, Dec. 17) - The Third Sunday of Advent

Day 16 (Monday, Dec. 18) - Lord, Come

1. Look back in your Bible at the earlier verses of John 5 to determine who Jesus is speaking to in verses 37-47.

2. List everything you learn about the person and character of God in the Exodus passage.

3. What insight does the burning bush narrative give you into how the Jews would have received Jesus' statement in John 5:43, "I have come in my Father's name, and yet you don't accept me"?

4. Outline the nature of Jesus' lordship as declared by Paul in Philippians.

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer asking Jesus to speed the day when all will bow and confess his lordship.



Day 17 (Tuesday, Dec. 19) - Root of Jesse, Come

1. Who was Jesse in the Old Testament? (See 1 Samuel 16.)

2. How did the prophetic writers Jeremiah and Isaiah describe the Root of Jesse, the Righteous Branch of David? What would his coming be like?

3. Which part of the Isaiah prophecy describes Jesus' first advent (coming) and which part describes his second advent?

4. What impact does it have on you to see the continuity of language and concepts in today's readings from the prophetic books of Jeremiah and Isaiah to Revelation?

5. Prayer Prompt: As the Psalmist declares, ask that Jesus, the Root of Jesse, would reach down from heaven and save you as he challenges the one who tramples you. Ask him to show you his faithful love and truth. (Psalm 57:2-3)



Day 18 (Wednesday, Dec. 20) - Key of David, Come

1. List all that the Lord of Armies promises to do for David in the 2 Samuel passage.

2. What is the cause for Isaiah's jubilant celebration?

3. What does the word Hosanna mean? What did the crowd call Jesus as he entered Jerusalem in John 12?

4. Taking into consideration all the passages in today's reading, what do you think it means for Jesus to be the "Key of David"?

5. Prayer Prompt: Ask God to fill your heart with joy and comfort as you meditate on Jesus' authority and the sure salvation he's provided for you.



Day 19 (Thursday, Dec. 21) - Morning Star, Come

1. Why did Asaph say in Psalm 78 that he would declare the glorious deeds of the Lord to the next generation?

2. In chapter 4 of Malachi the prophet tells of the coming Day of the Lord – when God will judge evil and establish his kingdom on earth. Note what this day will be like for the people of God. What imagery comes to mind as you read "the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings"?

3. How do the Matthew and 1 Corinthians passages speak to the way that we gain spiritual understanding?

4. To what experience with Jesus is Peter referring in verses 17-18? How are the prophetic promises fulfilled about Jesus even better than being an eyewitness to his life?

5. Prayer Prompt: Thank Jesus for being the Morning Star who illuminated your heart while you were in darkness and continues to illuminate your path.

2. In what way do you experience peace when meditating on the realities recorded in the Isaiah and Jeremiah passages? (For example, that Jesus shoulders the government, that he reigns forever, and that he is the King of the Nations!)

3. Using your holy imagination, picture the scene described in today's passage from Luke. Why do you think "the eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fixed on him"?

4. Paul speaks of what Christ has completed on our behalf in Ephesians 1:3-10. How does this passage indicate the fulfillment of what Ezekiel prophesied in today's reading?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer praising the King of the Nations, who has authority over everything in heaven and on earth.

Day 22 (Sunday, Dec. 24) - Christmas Eve – Immanuel Has Come

1. Why was Mary chosen to carry the Messiah?

2. What do you learn about the promised child from the angels' announcements to Mary and Joseph?

3. In what ways could you apply Luke 1:38 and 1:45 to your own life?

4. In what area of your life do you most need to experience Jesus' nearness as Immanuel, the God who has come to be with you?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer asking the Lord to grow your faith so you'll know that nothing is impossible with God.

ADVENT 2023



1. List all of the amazing aspects of restoration the Lord promised his people in today's Ezekiel passage.



Day 23 (Monday, Dec. 25) - Christmas Day - The Savior of the World Has Come Enjoy savoring today's readings from Luke 2 and Galatians 4 on this day of celebration!

Day 24 (Tuesday, Dec. 26) - The Glorious One Has Come

1. Look up and meditate on the definition of "consolation" to deepen your understanding of Luke 2:25.

2. Imagine what the interactions with Simeon and Anna would have been like for Joseph and Mary. Write down any thoughts that come to mind.

3. What do we learn at the end of Luke 2 about Jesus as a growing child?

4. How do Simeon and Anna exhibit responses to Jesus' presentation in the temple that are in line with the prophetic truths found in today's Isaiah passages?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer praising Jesus as the Glorious One who has come for you.



Day 25 (Wednesday, Dec. 27) - The Eternal King Has Come

1. Note all of the references Matthew makes to prophetic writings in chapter 2. If your Bible has cross-references, use them to determine where the quotes are taken from. If not, look them up online to find the source.

2. Matthew's gospel was written to Jews. Why do you think he included so many references to Old Testament writings in his telling of Jesus' early life?

3. Find all of the places in Matthew 2 where supernatural intervention plays a role in the narrative.

4. Revel in the amazing accuracy of the Scriptures' Messianic prophecy by noting how the wise men fulfill Isaiah's prediction in today's reading.

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer asking that the Eternal King's heavenly kingdom would come and his will would be done on earth.

1. What is your response to John's summary wrap-up statement toward the end of this gospel that you read today?

Day 26 (Thursday, Dec. 28) - The Holy Spirit Has Come

2. List all that you learn about Jesus from today's reading.

3. List all that you learn about the Holy Spirit from today's reading as well.

4. What are the people like who are filled with the Holy Spirit? What is true for them/about them? What do they experience?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer thanking the Holy Spirit for coming to comfort you, speak to you, and seal you for heaven. Ask him to fill you afresh today.

Day 27 (Friday, Dec. 29) - The Everlasting One Will Come Again

1. What comfort do you receive from John 14:3?

2. What did the disciples learn from the angels when Jesus ascended to heaven?

3. Note all of the descriptions given about Jesus in Revelation 19:11-16.

4. Jesus' first advent (coming) was humble and quiet, as a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manager. But what will Jesus' second advent be like?

5. Prayer Prompt: Write a prayer asking the Everlasting One to come quickly!









Day 28 (Saturday, Dec. 30) - Grace Day

Day 29 (Sunday, Dec. 31) - The Last Sunday of the Year

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