

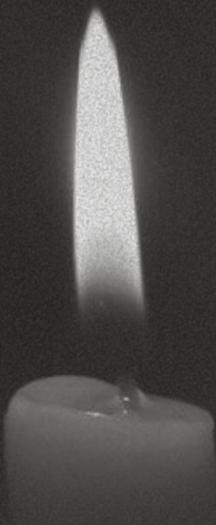


The Redeemed ADVENT Guide

FOUR WEEKS OF CELEBRATION

HOPE · PEACE · JOY · LOVE

A simple guide to help you and those around you
celebrate Christ this season



INTRODUCTION

A Season to Slow Down and Remember

At The Redeemed, we believe brotherhood and transformation begin when we create space for honest reflection and real connection – with God and with others. Advent gives us that space. It’s an invitation to slow down, prepare our hearts, and remember the true gift of Christmas: Jesus Christ, the Redeemer who came near.

This guide was designed to be simple, flexible, and built to fit into your real life.

Use it:

- **With your family**, gathered around the table or before bedtime.
- **With your roommates or friends**, as a weekly reflection together.
- **On your own**, to help you pause, pray, and reconnect with Christ’s presence.

Each week focuses on one theme – Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love – with a main Scripture, a short reflection, discussion questions, a prayer, and additional readings for deeper study. You can use it in one sitting or revisit it throughout the week.

Wherever and however you use it, our prayer is that this Advent season draws you closer to Jesus – the One who redeems our past, anchors our present, and fills our future with unshakable hope.



**May the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love of Christ fill your home
and heart this season. From all of us at The Redeemed –
MERRY CHRISTMAS.**

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE



Advent isn't about adding more to your schedule — it's about creating space for what matters most. This guide is designed to help you reflect on the hope, peace, joy, and love we find in Christ in a way that fits your life and rhythm.

You can use it in whatever setting works best for you:

For Individuals

Take time each day or once a week to read the reflection, answer the discussion questions in a journal, and pray through the Scripture. Light a candle or play soft worship music to help you focus your heart.

For Families

Set aside one night each week — perhaps Sunday evening — to light your Advent candles together. Read the week's Scripture and reflection aloud, ask the discussion questions, and close with the prayer. Keep it simple and conversational, especially with children.

For Small Groups or Friends

Use each week's section as a short devotional and discussion guide. Choose one Scripture reading or question to focus on together, and close with the prayer. If you meet virtually, share one highlight or takeaway from your week in the group chat.

WEEKLY RHYTHM (SUGGESTED)



Sunday: Light the candle for the week's theme and read the reflection together.

Monday–Thursday: Read one of the Additional Readings passages each day.

Friday or Saturday: Revisit the Discussion Questions and close with prayer.

OPTIONAL READING PLAN



Each week includes several Additional Readings you can use as daily devotionals (one passage per day) as you move toward Christmas. If you prefer a structured daily plan, see the Full Advent Scripture Reading Plan in the appendix.

ADVENT LIGHTING GUIDE



If you're using candles, the Advent wreath traditionally includes **five candles**: four around the outside (Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love) and **one in the center** – the **Christ Candle** – lit on Christmas.

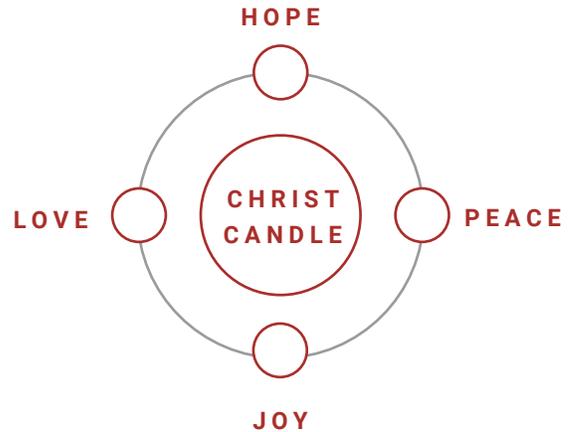
Week 1: Light the **HOPE** candle.

Week 2: Light **HOPE + PEACE** candles.

Week 3: Light **HOPE + PEACE + JOY** candles.

Week 4: Light **HOPE + PEACE + JOY + LOVE** candles.

Christmas Day: Light the center **CHRIST CANDLE** along with all four outer candles as you celebrate the birth of Jesus.



Each flame reminds us of the growing light of Christ entering the world, and the Christ Candle in the center represents that His light now lives among us.

REFLECTION REMINDER



Whether you use this guide alone or with others, pause for a few moments of silence at the end of each section. Let gratitude and wonder fill the space. Ask, *"Where did I see Christ show up this week?"*



WEEK 1

HOPE



Scripture

We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain ...

Hebrews 6:19 (ESV)

HOPE



Reflection

When I think of an anchor, I think of something strong but unseen. Many times, the things that are most important and guiding in our lives — faith, hope, love — are unseen by the outside world. It may show occasionally in our choices and how we live, but often others miss the true anchor that keeps us steady.

Without hope, we become lost in discouragement. We wander and surrender to less important things. But when all seems lost, Jesus steps in. He made a way for each of us to have a personal relationship with a holy God and intercedes on our behalf, paying the debt we could not pay. When all seemed lost and Jesus was in the tomb, it was not the end.

As followers of the Way, we know that when all seems lost, there is always hope. We know, just like the three in the fire, that God will show up — and if not in the way we expected, he will show up in another way.

Discussion Questions

- Where have you seen God give you hope this year?
- What's one thing you're hoping for in 2026 that you can entrust to Him?

Prayer

Lord, thank you for being our anchor. Help us to live with hope that points others to you.

Additional Readings

Isaiah 9:2–7

Prophecy of the coming Messiah

Luke 1:26–38

Gabriel announces Jesus' birth

Matthew 1:18–25

Joseph's hope in God's plan

Romans 15:12–13

God, the source of hope

Family or Group Activity

Create a "Hope Anchor" ornament or paper chain where each person writes one hope or prayer for the coming year.



WEEK 2

PEACE

Scripture

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

John 14:27 (ESV)

PEACE



Reflection

The outdoors are expansive, and it seems as though no matter how much you explore, you always discover something new. When we hike as a family, I always love it when we come upon an unexpected mountain lake with a surface as smooth as glass, reflecting the awe-inspiring surrounding landscape.

A scene like this makes me think about the peace we have in Christ. You see, most of the time, to get to these lakes, we have hiked through forests, climbed over rocks, and endured some physical exertion. We are tired, but then we see the lake in all its clarity, and all that trouble seems to fade away.

Jesus gives us peace through life's valleys and mountains by giving us himself. When you feel alone, he is with you. When you are downcast, he lifts your face. The Holy Spirit brings us comfort in life's storms so that we will not be shaken. Though the world is full of chaos and storms, we are like that glassy lake – still and calm as we reflect a deep peace that can only be found in the Creator of the world.

Discussion Questions

- When did you feel God's peace this year, even in difficulty?
- How can our family/home be a place of peace for others?

Prayer

Jesus, thank you for your peace. Teach us to trust you more fully and share your peace with others.

Additional Readings

Philippians 4:6–7

The peace of God guards our hearts

Isaiah 26:3

Perfect peace for those who trust in him

Luke 2:13–14

The angels proclaim peace on earth

Romans 5:1

Peace with God through faith in Christ

Colossians 3:15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts

Family or Group Activity

Light a candle together each night and take turns naming one thing that brings peace. Pray for God's peace to fill your home.



WEEK 3

JOY

Scripture

Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Nehemiah 8:10 (ESV)

JOY



Reflection

Joy To The World (Unspeakable Joy) by Chris Tomlin

Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare him room
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven, and Heaven and nature sing
Joy to the world, the Savior reigns
Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy
Joy, unspeakable joy
An overflowing well
Where no tongue can tell
Joy, unspeakable joy
Rises in my soul, never lets me go

I love this song. In a season where joy can quickly fade to despair, our minds are lifted up as we reflect on the goodness of our God. The whole world responds to the coming of our Savior, and that powerful entry is proof of a joy that can be ours. Jesus began his journey as a baby born in a humble manger, but finished as a suffering Savior and victorious deliverer. He came so that we might not be controlled by our circumstances or by our flesh but by the Spirit.

You and I have experienced the grace and goodness of God in salvation. We do not have to fear death or the grave. Even though we did nothing to deserve his glorious grace, oh, he rescued us and set us free! What joy! A joy that reminds us that no matter what we face, it's temporary, and we have an eternal home with our King. Just as Nehemiah celebrated the newly completed walls around the city of Jerusalem, we can celebrate our newly restored lives in Christ. We once were alienated from Christ, but now we have a new identity and hope because of our great Redeemer!

JOY



Discussion Questions

- What's one thing you're celebrating right now?
- How can we remind each other to find joy in everyday life?

Prayer

Father, thank you for the joy you give us through Christ. May your joy be our strength this season.

Additional Readings

Psalm 16:11

Fullness of joy in God's presence

Luke 1:46–55

Mary's song of joy

Romans 12:12

Be joyful in hope

James 1:2–4

Count it all joy when trials come

John 15:11

Jesus' joy in us, complete and lasting

Family or Group Activity

Create a "Joy Jar" — write moments of joy or gratitude each day, and read them aloud on Christmas Eve.



WEEK 4

LOVE

Scripture

*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 (ESV)

LOVE



Reflection

Jesus is love. His life demonstrates the love of God. This love is transforming and life-altering. This love doesn't leave us as we are but changes us into the people we were always intended to be. This love now fills us and overflows from our lives into the lives of others.

Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 13:4–7 that “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.” This describes Jesus perfectly – He embodied these qualities. Furthermore, the Holy Spirit empowers us to live in this way, embracing the path of love.

This is the love we see in Jesus – a love that protects, heals, forgives, and endures. When his love takes root in us, it reshapes how we see ourselves and how we love others. It becomes the defining mark of our lives, a reflection of the One who first loved us.

Discussion Questions

- Who is one person we can show love to this week?
- How can we as a family reflect God's love to our community?

Prayer

God, thank you for sending Jesus as the ultimate expression of love. Help us to love one another as you have loved us.

Additional Readings

John 3:16

God so loved the world

John 13:34–35

Love one another as I have loved you

1 Corinthians 13:4–7

The nature of true love

Romans 5:8

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us

Luke 2:1–20

Love came near

Family or Group Activity

Choose a “Love in Action” project – write cards to neighbors, bake for someone lonely, or give to a family in need.



CHRISTMAS DAY

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER

Scripture

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:10–11 (ESV)

CHRIST, OUR REDEEMER



Reflection

After weeks of waiting and preparing our hearts, Christmas Day reminds us that Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love are not abstract ideas — they are found in a Person.

Jesus is the fulfillment of every longing, the light that pierces the darkness, and the Redeemer who draws near to us. His birth changes everything. He brings hope that doesn't fade, peace that surpasses understanding, joy that strengthens our souls, and love that never ends. He is not just a distant story we reflect on, but a personal, living Savior.

Today we celebrate that our Savior has come — and that he is still with us.

Discussion Questions

- Which of the four themes — Hope, Peace, Joy, or Love — has meant the most to you this Advent season?
- How can we carry the message of Christ's coming into the new year?
- What is one way you can share his love tangibly this week?

Additional Readings

John 1:1–14

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us

Isaiah 7:14

The promise of Emmanuel

Philippians 2:5–11

Christ's humility and exaltation

Titus 3:4–7

The kindness and love of God our Savior appeared

Prayer

Lord Jesus, today we celebrate you — our Redeemer and King. Thank you for coming to dwell among us, for bringing light into our darkness, and for giving us life that never ends. May our hearts overflow with gratitude and our lives reflect your glory. Amen.

Family or Group Activity

- **Light of the World:** Light all four Advent candles and one final "Christ Candle" in the center. As you do, read John 1:4–5 and thank God that His light still shines in your life and home.
- **Family Blessing:** Go around and speak a short blessing over each person, naming how you've seen God's hope, peace, joy, or love in their life this year.
- **Worship Moment:** Play or sing a Christmas hymn such as *O Come, All Ye Faithful* or *Silent Night* together. Pause afterward for silent prayer or gratitude.



Our Gift to You This Christmas

The Redeemed Community Network is a place where men grow together through brotherhood, Scripture, and honest conversation.

Join us this Advent season as we share reflections, prayers, and stories of redemption.

Join free of charge at:
theredeemed.com/join-the-community

*Let this be the start of a new rhythm
of hope in your life.*

APPENDIX

FULL ADVENT SCRIPTURE READING PLAN

Use these passages for a short daily devotional time throughout Advent. Read one per day or use them to guide family or group reflections during the week.

Week 1: Hope

Monday – Hebrews 6:19

Tuesday – Isaiah 9:2–7

Wednesday – Luke 1:26–38

Thursday – Matthew 1:18–25

Friday – Romans 15:12–13

Saturday – Reflect & Pray

Sunday – Light the Hope candle

Week 4: Love

Monday – 1 John 4:9

Tuesday – John 3:16

Wednesday – John 13:34–35

Thursday – Romans 5:8

Friday – Luke 2:1–20

Saturday – Reflect & Pray

Sunday – Light all four candles

Week 2: Peace

Monday – John 14:27

Tuesday – Philippians 4:6–7

Wednesday – Isaiah 26:3

Thursday – Luke 2:13–14

Friday – Romans 5:1

Saturday – Reflect & Pray

Sunday – Light Hope + Peace candles

Christmas Day: Christ Our Redeemer

Luke 2:10–11

John 1:1–14

Isaiah 7:14

Philippians 2:5–11

Titus 3:4–7

Light all four candles and the Christ candle

Week 3: Joy

Monday – Nehemiah 8:10

Tuesday – Psalm 16:11

Wednesday – Luke 1:46–55

Thursday – Romans 12:12

Friday – James 1:2–4

Saturday – Reflect & Pray

Sunday – Light Hope + Peace + Joy candles