



Creation by the Word

September 12, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

**Creator God, you have created us in your image. Teach us to create, build up, and contribute to this beautiful world you have made. Amen.**



**Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

***<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. (Genesis 1:1-2)***



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**God created humanity in God's image—in the image of the Creator. We were made to create, build, and contribute to this world.**



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

**What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**

**What does it mean that you are created in God's image? What about yourself reminds you of God?**

**For the littles: What is God's favorite thing that God created?**



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God continue to create and re-create you each day. Amen.**



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

**Donate time or money to a local organization that protects the planet in some way. Journal about your experience.**



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, Genesis 1:1—2:4a, Creation by the Word

Monday, Genesis 2:4b-25, A Second Account of Creation

Tuesday, Genesis 3:1-13, The First Sin

Wednesday, Genesis 3:14-24, Punishment

Thursday, Genesis 4:1-16, Cain Murders Abel

Friday, Genesis 4:1-26, Beginnings of Civilization

Saturday, Genesis 18:1-15, A Son Promised to Abraham and Sarah



Binding of Isaac

September 19, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

**God of radical love, you prevented Abraham from sacrificing his son for you. You showed him that you don't need sacrifice to love or be loved. Remind us that you love us that deeply, too. Amen.**



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

<sup>2</sup>[God] said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." (Genesis 22:2)



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**God didn't need Abraham to sacrifice his son to appease God. God showed up for Abraham in a different way.**



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

**What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**

**How does this story make you feel? What do you think is the point of the story? When have you experienced life testing you beyond what you thought you could handle? Do you think God understood Abraham's grief when God lost Jesus to crucifixion?**

**For the littles: Tell of a time you trusted someone.**



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God bless you when life tests you. Amen.**



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

**Give something to God this week that is difficult to give. (Angry outbursts, disposable income, time, control)**



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14, Binding of Isaac

Monday, Genesis 24:1-27, Choosing of Rebekah

Tuesday, Genesis 24:28-49, Choosing of Rebekah

Wednesday, Genesis 24:50-67, Marriage of Isaac and Rebekah

Thursday, Genesis 25:19-28, The Birth of Esau and Jacob

Friday, Genesis 25:29-34, Esau Sells His Birthright

Saturday, Genesis 26:1-33, Isaac and Abimelech



Isaac's Blessing and Jacob's Dream

September 26, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

**God of second chances, when Jacob lied to his father and stole from his brother, another might write him off. But you did not, God. You saw something in him no one else saw. See that in us, too. Amen.**



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

*<sup>13</sup>And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring." (Genesis 28:13)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**Jacob did some pretty terrible things to his father and brother. But God saw something in him no one else saw, and God renewed with Jacob the covenant God had made with Abraham.**



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

**What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**

**Tell of a time you have tried to force God's hand. What could you do to give control over some aspect of your life to God?**

**For the littles: Do you know any angels?**



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God give you God's best blessing. Amen.**



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

**Make a list of all the ways God has blessed you. Which of these blessings come with responsibilities? Recommit yourself to taking on those responsibilities with respect.**



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17, Jacob's Dream

Monday, Genesis 27:30-40, Esau's Lost Blessing

Tuesday, Genesis 27:41-28:5, Jacob Escapes

Wednesday, Genesis 28:6-9, Esau Marries Ishmael's Daughter

Thursday, Genesis 29:1-14, Jacob Meets Rachel

Friday, Genesis 29:15-35, Jacob Marries Laban's Daughters

Saturday, Genesis 30:1-24, Rachel's Jealousy



God's Name Is Revealed

October 3, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of the covenant, you kept your promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob when you returned to deliver the Israelites. Your faithfulness saved your people. Teach us to trust in your faithfulness. Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*<sup>13</sup>But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" <sup>14</sup>God said to Moses, "I am who I am." (Exodus 3:13-14)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

God honored God's covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob when God appeared to Moses to promise deliverance to God's people.



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Tell of a time you had to wait a really long time for an answer from God. What happened when the answer finally came? If you are still waiting, what answer are you hoping for?

What did God mean by, "I Am Who I Am"? Consider that "I Am" is a state of being, not a state of doing.

For the littles: Do you like your name? What have you named your dolls, stuffed animals, or action figures?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God answer your prayers. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Go to [polarisproject.org](http://polarisproject.org) to learn more about human trafficking in our world today. Take the quiz, "How much do you know..." Learn as much as you can about what it is and how you can help stop it.



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, Exodus 2:23-25; 3:10-15; 4:10-17, God's Name Is Revealed  
Monday, Exodus 6:28-7:7, Moses and Aaron Obey God's Commands  
Tuesday, Exodus 12:1-13, The First Passover  
Wednesday, Exodus 12:29-42, Death of the Firstborn  
Thursday, Exodus 13:17-22, The Pillars of Cloud and Fire  
Friday, Exodus 14:1-25, Crossing the Red Sea  
Saturday, Exodus 14:26-31, Pursuers Drowned



God Provides Manna

October 10, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Faithful God, the Israelites had a hard time seeing what you were up to. Teach us to trust that you know what you're doing when we cannot see the bigger picture. Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*"The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'" (Exodus 16:11-12)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

The Israelites had a hard time seeing how God was working, and trusting that they would be cared for. But God knew what God was doing.



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

How, when, and with whom do you eat? Tell about your favorite mealtime experiences, and how food brought you together.

How many different ways could the Israelites have prepared manna and quail? What else might they have eaten during their time in the desert? What would you hope to eat if you were starving?

For the littles: What's your favorite food?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God provide for your every need. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Host a dinner party. Prepare a meal with your own hands. Sit at the table. Say grace. Have stimulating conversation. Enjoy the entire experience.



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, Exodus 16:1-18, God Provides Manna

Monday, Exodus 18:13-27, Jethro's Advice

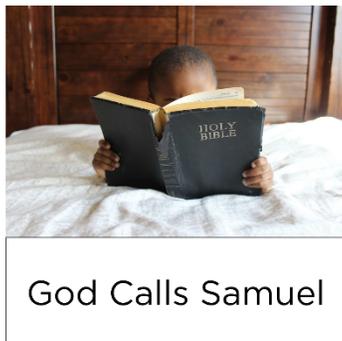
Tuesday, Exodus 20:1-21, The Ten Commandments

Wednesday, Exodus 25:10-22, The Ark of the Covenant

Thursday, Exodus 32:1-35, The Golden Calf

Friday, 1 Samuel 1:1-28, Samuel's Birth and Dedication

Saturday, 1 Samuel 2:1-10, Hannah's Prayer



God Calls Samuel

October 17, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Lord whom we serve, Samuel did not recognize your voice when you called, but he eventually obeyed. Teach us to know your voice and to respond, "Here I am!" Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

*"Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." (1 Samuel 3:10)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

Samuel didn't recognize the Lord's voice when the Lord called him. God had a difficult assignment for Samuel—the condemnation of his mentor, Eli.



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Tell of a time God called you to do something you were reluctant to do. (When was it hard to do the right thing?) How did you find the courage to do it?

How would your 11-year-old self have responded to a call by God?

For the littles: What can you do to serve God?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God grant you courage to come when called. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Compare a current news story in a variety of news outlets. Check the newspaper, TV networks, and social media. How is the story different depending on whose voice is speaking? Who do you believe? Why?



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, 1 Samuel 3:1-21, God Calls Samuel

Monday, 1 Samuel 4:1-11, The Ark of God Captured

Tuesday, 1 Samuel 5:1-12, Philistines and the Ark

Wednesday, 1 Samuel 6:1-16, The Ark Returned

Thursday, 1 Samuel 8:1-18, Israel Demands a King

Friday, 1 Samuel 9:27-10:8, Samuel Anoints Saul as King

Saturday, 1 Samuel 15:10-34, Saul Rejected as King



October 24, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

**God of faithful servanthood, you called Samuel to anoint David, the smallest and youngest of Jesse's son, to be king over Israel. Teach us to follow you as Samuel did. Amen.**



**Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*<sup>12</sup>He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." <sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. (1 Samuel 16:12-13)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**God called Samuel to do an unpopular thing—anoint David, the smallest, youngest, and prettiest of Jesse's sons. And so, he did.**



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What leadership qualities do you possess? (Everyone has some.) What other gifts has God given you? How can you use your gifts to do God's work in the world? What did God see in David? How did David's brothers feel about being passed up for the kingship?

**For the littles:** What can you do because you're small that others that are big can't do?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God choose you just for who you are. Amen.**



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

**David was nearly overlooked. Consider someone important in your life that is easy to overlook. (A kid's favorite teacher, your minister, postal delivery person, pharmacist, police, etc.) Write and send a letter, card, or email letting them know how important they are to you. Thank them for their role in your life.**



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 51:10-14, God Calls David

Monday, 1 Samuel 17:1-11, Goliath

Tuesday, 1 Samuel 17:12-23, David Visits His Brothers

Wednesday, 1 Samuel 17:31-40, David Prepares for Battle

Thursday, 1 Samuel 17:41-54, David Slays Goliath

Friday, 1 Kings 1:28-31, Solomon Becomes King

Saturday, 1 Kings 3:3-15, Solomon's Prayer for Wisdom



October 31, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

**God of the temple, Solomon built a temple so people could have a house of worship. Now, we are your living house. Show us how to express our praise whether in the building or out. Amen.**



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

*"So I intend to build a house for the name of the Lord my God, as the Lord said to my father David, 'Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, shall build the house for my name.'" (1 Kings 1:5)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**Solomon built a temple as a place to honor and worship God. The building was ornate, and the worship extravagant.**



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

**What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**

**In your place of worship, what makes worship meaningful? What hinders meaningful worship? What stands in the way of putting God first?**

**For the littles: What do you like most about your church?**



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God bless your home. Amen.**



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

**Volunteer your time around the church this week. Clean the pews, organize the Sunday School closet, or host a funeral luncheon. Be creative!**



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, 1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13, Solomon's Temple  
Monday, 1 Kings 17:1-7, Elijah Predicts a Drought  
Tuesday, 1 Kings 17:8-16, The Widow Zarephath  
Wednesday, 1 Kings 17:17-24, Elijah Revives the Widow's Son  
Thursday, 1 Kings 18:1-19, Elijah's Message to Ahab  
Friday, 1 Kings 18:20-40, Elijah's Triumph over the Priests of Baal  
Saturday, 1 Kings 18:41-46, The Drought Ends



November 7, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of stillness, you speak to us sometimes in the silence. Teach us to sit comfortably in it so that we might learn to hear your voice. Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*<sup>11</sup>Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; <sup>12</sup>and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. (1 Kings 19:11-12)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**Elijah didn't find God in the noise, but in the silence.**



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Where do you hear God the loudest? Where do you see God most vividly? Where do you feel God most strongly? Listen, look, and feel God all around you this week. Why is God sometimes easiest to hear when all the other voices around us are silenced?

**For the littles:** Where do you best hear or speak to God?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God speak to you loud and clear. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

**Have your hearing tested. In fact, make appointments for all the medical check-ups you've been putting off. It's easier to do God's work if you are at your healthiest.**



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

- Sunday, 1 Kings 19:1-18, God Speaks to Elijah
- Monday, 2 Kings 2:1-12, Elijah Ascends to Heaven
- Tuesday, 2 Kings 2:13-18, Elisha Succeeds Elijah
- Wednesday, 2 Kings 2:19-25, Elisha Performs Miracles
- Thursday, 2 Kings 4:1-7, Elisha and the Widow's Oil
- Friday, 2 Kings 5:1-19, Elisha Heals Naaman
- Saturday, 2 Kings 9:30-37, Jezebel's Violent Death



Amos: Justice Rolls Down

November 14, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

**God of justice, you desire for us to cultivate compassion and work toward justice. Teach us to love as you love. Amen.**



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

***<sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream. (Amos 5:24)***



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**God didn't want Israel's worship rituals and sacrifices. God wanted real change—justice that rolls down like waters, and a stream of righteousness.**



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

**What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**

**Where do you see the greatest inequities in your community?**

**What can you do to make your world more just?**

**How does one person become a crowd, a crowd become a movement, movement become change?**

**For the littles: Who needs your help?**



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God wash you with a spirit of justice. Amen.**



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

**Go to [Kickstarter.com](https://www.kickstarter.com). Find and fund a project that works for justice.**



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](https://www.clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24, Amos: Justice Rolls Down

Monday, Amos 3:1-8, Israel's Guilt and Punishment

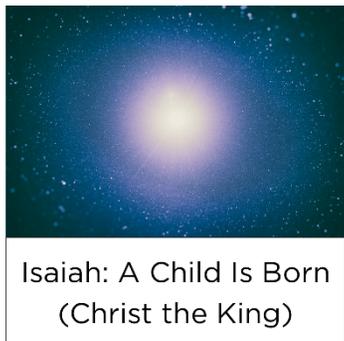
Tuesday, Amos 5:18-20, The Day of the Lord a Dark Day

Wednesday, Amos 6:1-8, Complacent Self-Indulgent Punished

Thursday, Amos 6:9-14, Complacent Self-Indulgent Punished

Friday, Amos 7:1-9, Locusts, Fire, and a Plumb Line

Saturday, Amos 9:22-25, The Restoration of David's Kingdom



November 21, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

**God of hope, you spoke a word of hope to Israel, refugees in search of a home. Renew in us your vision of your people restored. Amen.**



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

*'For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**When Israel found herself conquered and exiled, there was only one thing left: hope in the form of a savior named "Wonderful Counselor..."**



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

**What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**

**What does your name say about you? What do your nicknames say about you? What do these names for Jesus say about Jesus?**

**What name/s would Jesus take on today? How would these names effect change in the world?**

**For the littles: What words best describe Jesus?**



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God call you by name. Amen.**



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

**Do an internet search of your name. What pops up? What do these say about you?**



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, Isaiah 9:1-7, Isaiah: A Child Is Born

Monday, Isaiah 11:1-9, The Peaceful Kingdom

Tuesday, Isaiah 22:1-14, A Warning of Destruction of Jerusalem,

Wednesday, Isaiah 25:1-12, Praise for Deliverance from Oppression

Thursday, Isaiah 27:1-11, Israel's Redemption

Friday, Isaiah 30:8-17, A Rebellious People

Saturday, Isaiah 32:16-20, The Peace of God's Reign



Jeremiah's Letter to Exiles (Advent 1)

November 28, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

**God of restoration, when the Israelites were exiled, you invited them to accept a new normal. Show us how to move forward when it seems all is lost. Amen.**



**Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*<sup>11</sup>For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.*

*<sup>12</sup>Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. (Jeremiah 29:11-12)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**Israel was exiled, and it looked like it was going to be for a long time. God's invitation to the people came with a promise: build a new life for themselves, and when they searched for God, God would be found.**



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

**What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**

**Tell of a time your faith was shaken. What happened? Where is your faith now?**

**Has God ever gone back on a promise?**

**For the littles: What's the first thing you do when you return home from being out?**



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God grant you unshakable faith. Amen.**



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

**Write a letter on behalf of people exiled in the world today. Go to Amnesty International, Oxfam, Human Rights Watch, or other organization dedicated to working for justice. Learn what you can do to effect change.**



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14, Jeremiah's Letter to Exiles

Monday, Jeremiah 1:4-19, Jeremiah's Call

Tuesday, Jeremiah 2:1-8, God Pleads with Israel to Repent

Wednesday, Jeremiah 3:1-5, Unfaithful Israel

Thursday, Jeremiah 30:1-9, Restoration Promised for Israel and Judah

Friday, Jeremiah 31:1-6, The Joyful Return of the Exiles

Saturday, Jeremiah 31:31-37, A New Covenant



Ezekiel: Valley of Dry Bones (Advent 2)

December 5, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of new life, you showed Ezekiel that you have the ability and willingness to restore Israel to new life. We ask that you restore us, too, to new life filled with abundant blessings and gratitude. Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

*"Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." (Ezekiel 37:9)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

Israel was dead—or so it seemed. God showed Ezekiel that, like dry bones restored to life, Israel could and one day would be restored to life.



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What vital part of you is dead or dying? What needs to happen for that part of you to be brought back to life?

For the littles: Have you ever known someone that died? What was that like?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God breathe new life into you. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Register to become an organ donor (your local DMV), a blood donor (Red Cross or Memorial Blood Bank), and bone marrow donor (Be The Match).



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, Ezekiel 37:1-14, Ezekiel: Valley of Dry Bones

Monday, Ezekiel 1:1-14, The Vision of the Chariot

Tuesday, Ezekiel 1:15-28, The Vision of the Chariot

Wednesday, Ezekiel 2:1-3:11, The Vision of the Scroll

Thursday, Ezekiel 40:1-19, The Vision of the New Temple

Friday, Ezekiel 40:20-37, The Vision of the New Temple

Saturday, Ezekiel 40:38-47, The Vision of the New Temple



Word Accomplishes God's Purpose (Advent 3)

December 12, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of restoration and new life, when Israel had lost everything, you reminded them they still had one thing: your word. Help us to speak and listen for your word so that it might accomplish its purpose. Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*<sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:10-11)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

God's people were exiled and had lost everything—except God's word. As long as they continued to speak and hear the word of God, that word would accomplish its purpose—the restoration of Israel one day.



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What kinds of words do you speak? Are your words angry, gentle, spiteful, generous, bitter, meaningful? What do your words say about you?

How does a word “accomplish that which I purpose”? (Go out into the world and return full.) Just how powerful are words?

For the littles: Do you like to talk a lot or a little?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God bless your words going out and coming in. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Create a “bitter words” jar. Decide on an amount of money each member of the household will put in for every time they swear, speak words that sting, are bitter, or are ungrateful. Decide together how you will use the money collected—perhaps give it away!



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

- Sunday, Isaiah 55:1-11, Word Accomplishes God's Purpose
- Monday, Isaiah 40:1-11, God's People Are Comforted
- Tuesday, Isaiah 53:2-12, The Suffering Servant
- Wednesday, Isaiah 57:14-21, A Promise of Help and Healing
- Thursday, Isaiah 59:1-8, Injustice and Oppression to Be Punished
- Friday, Isaiah 61:1-11, The Good News of Deliverance
- Saturday, Isaiah 65:17-25, The Glorious New Creation



December 19, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

**God of light, you walked the earth when you created it. You walked it again when Word became flesh. Remind us that you walk with us still. Amen.**



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

***'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (Genesis 1:1)***



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**God walked the earth when God created it. God would walk the earth again, when God's Word would become flesh.**



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

**What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**

**God created with a word, and then God's Word became flesh. What is the most amazing thing you have ever created? What is the most important word or words you have ever spoken?**

**For the littles: Do you like to fingerprint? What can you paint?**



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God bless you with a single word. Amen.**



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

**Create something new. Bake, paint, write, carve, plant, quilt. Celebrate God's word in your creation.**



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, John 1:1-18, Word Made Flesh

Monday, Matthew 2:1-12, Wise Men

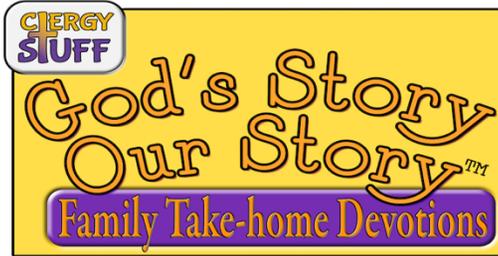
Tuesday, Luke 2:21-32, Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

Wednesday, Luke 2:33-40, Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

Thursday, Luke 2:41-52, The Boy Jesus in the Temple

Friday, Luke 2:1-20, Birth of Jesus

Saturday, Luke 1:26-38, Birth of Jesus Foretold



Birth of Jesus  
(Christmas Eve)

December 24, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God the parent of the Christ child, today we celebrate the birth of the king! Fill us with joy and hope, as Jesus' birth offers new life for all! Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

*7And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. (Luke 2:7)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus was born into the family of David at a time when David's family was gathered for a census. His birth brought people together and continues to do so.



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What emotions does Christmas evoke in you at this time of the year? How can you turn positive emotions into action for the benefit of others? If the holidays are hard for you, who could you turn to for help getting through this tough time?

For the littles: What smells, sights, sounds, and emotions can you imagine at Jesus' birth?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God bless you now and forever. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

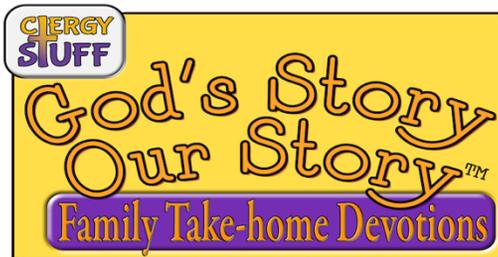
Return to the store one gift that is given to you this Christmas. Use the money to bless someone who has little. If you are the recipient of aid this Christmas, accept the help with gratitude and your head held high. It takes courage to accept help from others.



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Friday, Luke 2:1-20, Birth of Jesus

Saturday, Luke 1:26-38, Birth of Jesus Foretold



Shepherds Visit  
(Christmas Day)

December 25, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Proud parent God, your son, Jesus, is certainly a reason to celebrate! We rejoice with you the birth of your son, and we recognize the birth is for us, too! Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

*<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." (Luke 2:15)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus' proud parent offered the most extravagant birth announcement—this baby is for everyone to celebrate!



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Tell of a time God's blessing interrupted the flow of your life.

What might the shepherds and Mary have talked about as they cooed over the baby Jesus?

For the littles: What would you say to the baby Jesus at the manger?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God walk with you every day of your life. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Visit someone who you know will be alone this Christmas. (Perhaps someone in a nursing home, who cannot travel, or who is hospitalized.) Bring them Christmas cookies this afternoon and stay for a brief visit.



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Saturday, Luke 1:26-38, Birth of Jesus Foretold



A Voice in the Wilderness

December 26, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of proclamation, you sent John into the world to prepare the way for Jesus. Jesus prepared the mission for us. Give us courage to carry the mantle and proclaim your word to the world. Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

<sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. (John 1:23)



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

John had an important role to play—to prepare the way for Jesus, the Messiah, to enter the scene.



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

There are so many competing voices in our world. In what ways do celebrities (entertainers, sports figures, politicians, etc.) compete to be heard? How does their contending affect the rest of us? How do you know whose voice to listen to?

What was it like to live as a prophet in Jesus' day? If you were a prophet today, what would you eat? What would you wear? How would you make your voice heard?

For the littles: Are you more loud or quiet?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God be the loudest voice in your head. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Tune out the voices of the world this week. Limit your exposure to social media, TV, and the internet. Immerse yourself in positivity, and in God's word.



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, John 1:19-34, A Voice in the Wilderness

Monday, Psalm 32:1-2, The Joy of Forgiveness

Tuesday, Psalm 32:3-4, The Joy of Forgiveness

Wednesday, Psalm 32:5, The Joy of Forgiveness

Thursday, Psalm 32:6-7, The Joy of Forgiveness

Friday, Psalm 32:8-9, The Joy of Forgiveness

Saturday, Psalm 32:10-11, The Joy of Forgiveness



Jesus Says Come and See

January 2, 2022

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of invitation, your son, Jesus, sent an invitation to all who would follow, "Come and see." Give us courage to come and vision to see. Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*<sup>38</sup>When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup>He said to them, "Come and see." (John 1:38-39)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus gathered a team of ministers to help him do ministry. He did it with an invitation, "Come and see."



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

In what ways, do you abide with Jesus? How do you emulate him? How much time do you spend with Jesus throughout the week?

Why did people leave everything to follow Jesus? What would I be willing to leave to follow? What would be hard to leave?

For the littles: Do you prefer to follow or to be the leader?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God abide with you, day in and day out. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Go to the thrift shop and buy a pair of shoes in your size. Wear them all week. Every time you notice you are wearing different shoes, remember you have been invited to walk with and emulate Jesus.



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, John 1:35-51, Jesus Says Come and See

Monday, Psalm 66:1-5, Praise for God's Goodness to Israel

Tuesday, Psalm 66:6-7, Praise for God's Goodness to Israel

Wednesday, Psalm 66:8-12, Praise for God's Goodness to Israel

Thursday, Psalm 66:13-15, Praise for God's Goodness to Israel

Friday, Psalm 66:16-19, Praise for God's Goodness to Israel

Saturday, Psalm 66:20, Praise for God's Goodness to Israel