

25 DAYS OF ANTICIPATION

JESUS...THE FULFILLMENT OF
EVERY HEART'S LONGING

LOVE WORTH FINDING MINISTRIES



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Introduction

Thanks for stopping by during the Christmas rush!
Whether you are a Christian or someone who wants to know more about Jesus, we're glad you're here.

This is a mini Bible study—a daily selection of Bible readings with two paragraphs of devotional thought and a question or two to ponder.

We're going to be looking at prophecies regarding the Messiah alongside passages documenting the fulfillment of those prophecies in Jesus Christ.

We hope this book greatly enhances your Christmas advent season as you contemplate the babe in the Manger as the Creator, the fulfillment of prophecy from Genesis through Revelation, and the answer to the longing in every soul.

So grab your Bible and a cup of warm cocoa.

Sit with us by the fire a while and warm your heart!



DECEMBER 1

Jesus—God of Creation

READING HIS STORY

Prophecy Proclaimed

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. —Genesis 1:1

Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”
—Genesis 1:26

Have you talked to a 2-year-old lately? Even young children know to use the word “I” or “me” when talking about themselves alone. Here our Creator God uses the plural “Us.” The plural pronoun expresses His unique nature as God the Father in total harmony with His unique nature as God the Son and likewise God the Holy Spirit. “In the beginning, God” refers to the Trinity.

Prophecy Fulfilled

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. —John 1:1-3

We may have difficulty grasping the concept of God as three-in-one, but John makes it clear in his opening statements that Jesus is the very God of creation. John refers to Jesus as the Word and states: “the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” He goes on to say that at creation, “nothing was made” without Jesus. The Apostle Paul puts it this way in Colossians 1:16-17, “All things were created through Him and for Him.”

WRITING YOUR STORY

Have you thanked the Triune God for creating you?

You can speak to God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thanking Him for giving you life.

What does it mean to you that you were created “for” Jesus?



DECEMBER 2

Jesus—Victorious from the Beginning

READING HIS STORY

Prophecy Proclaimed

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel. —Genesis 3:15

Jesus' birth and His victory over Satan are prophesied here in the very first book of the Old Testament. After Eve, and then Adam, both succumb to temptation, God tells Satan, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed." Throughout the Bible, the word

“seed” refers to the offspring of a male, but here God speaks of the “Seed of the woman.” Seed is capitalized because it refers to God Himself in the person of Jesus Christ—a prophecy of the Virgin Birth.

Prophecy Fulfilled

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law... —Galatians 4:4

Jesus was “born of a woman,” but not of a man, having instead the sinless genetic make-up of God Himself. He was born “under the law” into a world under judgment. In the sacrifice of His sinless life, He was the only one who could redeem us from the law of sin and death and offer us grace. As we accept His grace, we are born again, not “of the will of man, but of God” (John 1:13), with our Heavenly Father’s spiritual DNA.

WRITING YOUR STORY

Have you accepted the offer of God's grace?

If not, what is holding you back?

If so, in what ways are you different now that you have your Father's spiritual DNA?



DECEMBER 3

Jesus—Born of a Virgin

READING HIS STORY

Prophecy Proclaimed

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign:
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son,
and shall call His name Immanuel. —Isaiah 7:14

Many people struggle to accept the Virgin Birth because it is so obviously a miracle, but the Virgin Birth, prophesied some 700 years before its fulfillment in Bethlehem, is fundamental to the Christian faith.

Prophecy Fulfilled

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.” Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name **Jesus**. —Matthew 1:18-25

Without the Virgin Birth, Mary is a harlot, Joseph is a fool, and Jesus is a mere son of Adam. Without the Virgin Birth,