

The Gift of Life Prayer Guide



21 Days of Prayer During Advent

Over the next three weeks leading up to Christmas let us join as the body of Christ for the purpose to prepare, to pray, and to present the gift of life to someone we love either to be rededicated to the Lord or to be born again for the first time. Spend three weeks in prayer and extend the invitation to attend Christmas Day services to hear about the gift of life.

Make the Advent season have a purpose and meaning. Christmas is often about trying to find the perfect gift for someone we love.

The American Red Cross uses the phrase “The Gift of Life” to encourage donations of blood. Using the same analogy Jesus is the ultimate gift of life and in His gift of blood he has atoned for our sins and redeemed our life. Jesus gives the gift of life.



**HELP SAVE A LIFE +
GIVE THE GIFT OF BLOOD**



Week 1 Prepare

Often, we enter prayer without preparation, this first step is vital. The gift we are offering is life changing not just now but also for eternity. The gift is eternal life that comes only through the blood of Jesus.

Day 1 Monday You Come Before a Holy God

You are coming before a Holy God pray today that your heart and mind are united in considering whom it is that your approach.

Psalm 2:11 (ESV)

¹¹ Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

Meditate on God and how you enjoy a close relationship with the Father and can call on Him as Abba Father all the while remembering that your Father created all you see and life by His spoken word.

Pray that God would shine in your life for all to see.

Day 2 Tuesday You Need to Be Cleansed

As we live in this world as believers, having received the gift of life we are still influenced by unbelievers and tempted to sin. This creates a burden that we carry until something breaks and with each passing day the burden gets heavier. As this burden builds we are often viewed by the burdens we bear rather than the God who saved us.

Matthew 11:28 (ESV)

²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Meditate on the burdens you carry, the sins, the temptations, the struggles. Seek to see how God wants to relieve those burdens. Meditate on those around you and misery of the burdens they carry because they do not give them to Jesus.

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Pray for God to cleanse you, to wash you and take away your burdens. Pray that in the cleansing you will they reflect God's glory to those around you.

Day 3 Wednesday A Day of Sacrifice

What would you do for your loved ones to rescue them from a tragedy. Would you rush into a burning building, would you dive into the lake, would you throw them a lifeline from the top of the pit? You would sacrifice anything for someone you love. What would you sacrifice today in fasting. Think of something that would draw your attention away from God or take time from your prayer and sacrifice that to God for this day.

Meditate on what you will fast from. Seek the Holy Spirit to strengthen you spiritually to deny the flesh every time it cries out to be fed.

Jonah 3:5 (ESV)

⁵ And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

Pray every moment your mind turns to what it is you are fasting from and pray for the one who will be offered the *Gift of Life* that they would be receptive. God loves your sacrifice.

Day 4 Do Not Waiver

You have set out on this holy journey for a purpose that only God can achieve. You have done so in love because Jesus said to love God and to love our neighbor. Your concern for them is admirable and pleasing to God. Now the enemy of God, Satan will strike and begin to sow doubt and fear but do not let your trust in God waiver. He cares for your loved ones as you do.

Mark 11:24 (ESV)

²⁴ Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Meditate on what causes you doubt. What are the realities of life that weakens your faith. As you do consider how you have succumbed to these temptations in the past.

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Pray for greater faith and trust in God believe that it has already been done and as you pray that they would receive the gift of life.

Day 5 Thursday Get Alone with God

As you end your fast from the previous day your spirit should be hungry for more of God. This is a time to prepare and practice being alone with God to feed that hunger. To cultivate in your spirit a greater desire for the awareness of God in your life today spend time alone with God and let your spirit be fed.

Matthew 6:6 (ESV)

⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Meditate on giving God you time and attention. Do not think about the needs of life. Your greatest need in this day will be to be with God.

Pray openly to God as your Father seeking to feel his presence in your alone time with the Lord.

Day 6 Learning from Jesus

We know that prayer is a way to commune with God. The Bible teaches that Jesus is fully God and fully man. Jesus prayed. Why and for what purpose? During His mission to bring salvation to humanity Jesus was separated from the Trinity. He prayed to commune with God. His prayer was for a time of fellowship.

Meditate on how your closeness with God has been impacted by the day-to-day life we lead. That was what Jesus experienced and when he became fatigued, he sought out strength with God. Even though HE was God he allowed himself to experience the weakness

Pray

Matthew 6:8–13 (ESV)

⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

⁹ Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

¹⁰ Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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- ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread,
¹² and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Day 7 Sunday a Day to Worship

We were created to worship. God has given humanity a heart or spirit that longs for God. However, in the fall there have been a lot of false gods that have arisen. The greatest satisfaction and joy for a believer comes in worship. In doing what we were created for we find fulfillment and joy.

Acts 2:42-46 (ESV)

- ⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.
⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.
⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common.
⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.
⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,

Meditate today on being completely devoted to God. Let worship renew your spirit and strengthen your heart. As you meditate consider how lonely it is to not have the ones you care for, knowing the joy you now know and experience.

Pray that the ones you love and care for would see how worship transforms your life. Pray that they would seek to have the same joy in their life and would be open for the offer to receive the gift of life.

Week 2 Pray

In the first week we were preparing to pray. Seeking to be made clean and to come before God and you sacrificed, you sought to draw near to God, and the preparation was all to strengthen your faith to pray without wavering.

This week the focus will be on praying for those you want to present the gift of life to. This week will be devoted to seeking God to move mountains to bring them to love the appearing of Jesus in their life.

Day 1 Monday Pray Like Jesus

Jesus would often get alone and spend time in prayer. Not all of His prayers are recorded for us, but His flesh needed the time alone to commune with God. While we will never be at the same level of Jesus there is an expectation that we pray with passion for the lost.

⁴⁰ And when he came to the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." ⁴¹ And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, ⁴² saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." ⁴³ And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. ⁴⁴ And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. ⁴⁵ And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

(Lk 22:40–46 ESV)

Meditate on the passion with which the Lord prayed. Knowing the agony and pain He was about to suffer, yet His love for the Father and for us was so great that He knew He must drink the cup of wrath. It was our cup that He drank from, our sins that laid on Him.

Pray for the lost in your life that they would allow their eyes to be opened to this great love. Pray with passion and plead with the Father just as our Lord did. Pray that you would be willing to make every sacrifice to share with them the love of Jesus.

Day 2 Tuesday Pray Believing

Our faith is the key to our prayer. We are commanded by the Lord to believe as we pray and to pray in faith. Jesus said even a small amount of faith will move mountains.

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⁷“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? ¹¹If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him! **(Mt 7:7–11 ESV)**

Meditate on your prayer life and your faith. Where is your faith lacking. Seek to understand and ask God to help you faith.

Pray for the lost in your life believing that what you ask for God will give. Believe that God will move the mountains in their life that keep them away from God.

Day 3 Wednesday Pray Expecting

Again we must pray expecting that God will answer our prayer. Jesus' last teaching on the night before the cross taught that we should expect our prayers to be answered especially when it comes to the salvation of others.

²³In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. **(Jn 16:23–24 ESV)**

Meditate on the significance of this night when Jesus spoke these words. He was desperate to bring redemption to those who were condemned to God's wrath. The lost ones in your life are the ones Jesus wants you pray for expecting that they will receive the gift of life.

Pray Holy Spirit to prepare the hearts of the lost ones in your life, to make them receptive.

Day 4 Thursday Pray for Wisdom

You may be concerned what you will say or how you will say it but the scripture is clear that if you are motivated in pure love and seek to speak the truth in love that God will give you the wisdom and the words to speak.

¹⁹When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. ²⁰For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. **(Mt 10:19–20 ESV)**

⁶But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. **(Jas 1:6–8 ESV)**

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Meditate on the words that Holy Spirit will give you to say. Remembering that it will not be you who speaks to them but Holy Spirit who speaks through you. You will be the vessel of God's love.

Pray for wisdom and believe that God will give.

Day 5 Friday Pray for God to Open a Door

Only God can open the door to the hearts of the lost. Remember this is God's work. You will be seeking God to open a door and make an opportunity for you to speak to your lost loved ones.

²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. ²¹ The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. ²² He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.' " (Re 3:20-22 ESV)

Meditate today on the times when you want to take control and force the door open. Think about how you can never open the door to their heart. Meditate on the times when the door will be opened.

Pray that God will give you courage to take the opportunities he provides and step through the open doors.

Day 6 Saturday Pray Against the Enemy that Will Attack

Satan will come against you and the lost ones in your life. He deceive you will complacency and reason. Arguing that the ones you feel are good enough are actually bound for Hell to spend eternity with him. Keep watch on yourself and seek to be a faithful servant of the Lord.

²⁴ And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, ²⁵ correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will. (2 Ti 2:24-26 ESV)

Meditate on the desperate situation for the lost they are trapped by Satan held in bondage and God is calling you to be His servant. To be patient, gentle, and knowing that God alone can free them from the snare. Think about how angry and mean a trapped animal can be. They will often be so angry and in pain that they will attack the one that is trying to save them.

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Pray for the gifts of God to approach those who are trapped. Pray for those snared by Satan. Pray for compassionate patience as you seek God's power to free the lost ones in your life.

Day 7 Sunday Worship Together in Prayer

Today we will come together in worship and pray together for each other. We will pray that lives will be shaken and that the lost ones in our lives will turn to the Lord.

³¹And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness. **(Ac 4:31 ESV)**

Meditate on coming together to encourage one another. Ponder the power of our faith multiplied together to shake the foundations of the lost ones lives.

Pray together offering a sacrifice of our love for their eternal souls. Pray for boldness.

Week 3 Present

We now come to the end of three weeks of praying leading up to Christmas Day on Sunday December 25th. The theme of this devotion has been to offer the gift of life to those you love and even those you don't love. Everyone deserves the offer of the Gift of Life. Jesus commands us to love even our enemies and HE said that if we love Him we will keep His commandments.

Week 1 you prepared to come before our Holy God with a clean heart and with the right motives. Often, we neglect the preparation needed to come before God. In the Old Testament the priest would go through a ceremonial cleansing that lasted several days. Of course, in the New Covenant we are told to come as we are covered in the blood of Jesus. Yet there is something about being reverent and respectful to not be casual and unintentional in the way we come to God.

Week 2 you came before God offering your prayer and seeking God's blessing not for your self but for those who are under the judgment of Christ. You asked for God to give you the words to speak, for doors to be opened, for hearts to be receptive, and for wisdom.

Week 3 we now must go through those doors and use those words that God has given you to Present the Gift of Life to them and to specifically invite them to come to church with you on Christmas Day.

Day 1 Monday For God So Loved

John 3:16–18 (ESV)

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

Meditate on how the ones the Lord has laid on your heart need the love of God in their life. You may have seen them struggling with life or consumed with life and no regard for God seeking love in all the wrong places. Meaning they have sought the love of people and things.

Pray as you speak to them about the love of God that will satisfy their longing soul.

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Day 2 Tuesday God has been Patient

2 Peter 3:8–10 (ESV)

⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Meditate on how you have patiently prayed but that for thousands of years our Lord has been patiently calling to the lost to come. Continue to be patient with them and leading them to the truth of their need to be ready for the Day of the Lord.

Pray that their hearts will be open to the calling of God about their need in their life and the coming Day of the Lord. Are they ready?

Day 3 Wednesday God Desires that Would Not Experience the Second Death

Ezekiel 33:11 (ESV)

¹¹ Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Meditate on the fact that one of the saddest moments for God is the rejection of His Son and His sacrificial salvation. God's desire is that all will glorify God with a willing heart. Yet it is God's choice and God's gift of life.

Pray for the lost in your life that they will come to understand the depth of God's grief for them especially if they continue to reject the offer of love and salvation. Speak to those you love offering them the truth of God's concern for their life.

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Day 4 Thursday God Wants His Truth to Be Spoken in Love

Ephesians 4:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

Meditate on your motives for the lost in your life. Rejection is always hard and being rejected by someone you are trying to help is even harder. Please know that God wants our motives to be His love for the world and he was that love to be communicated in the truth of His word. The truth is that the Day of the Lord is fast approaching either in our passing from this life or in the return of Christ. Seek to please God for His glory and that will give you the courage to speak the truth in love.

Pray for your courage to speak truth in love.

Day 5 Friday Only One Gift of Life

John 14:6 (ESV)

⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Meditate on the significance that your salvation came at a great cost. Jesus incurred the wrath of God for you that you would not perish. What we believe is what they perceive. If you believe in your heart that Jesus died for you the lost in your life will see that in you. They will perceive why you are filled with peace and joy.

Pray that God will let your light shine in this season when the days are the shortest and that the lost will be moved by your love and faith. They will be drawn by God to The Way, The Truth, The Life and they will receive the Gift of Life. Invite them to church on Christmas Day.

Day 6 Christmas Eve

John 14:1–14 (ESV)

I Am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life

14 “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹²“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Pray believing as you have read this passage Jesus will grant you your prayers. No doubts, no stipulations that maybe God has said no, or God has said later. Believe!

Day 7 Christmas Day

Luke 2:1–14 (ESV)

The Birth of Jesus Christ

2 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Shepherds and the Angels

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for

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behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

Rejoice in God’s Glory as you worship this day.