

BEHOLD HIM!

A December Bible Reading Guide with Prayer Prompts

Week One - Behold Him as Creator in the Beginning

Dec 1 John 1: 1 – 9

Mighty God...You alone create and sustain life. With one word from your mouth the earth was formed. Who is greater or higher than you? In love and faithfulness, you bring light to the dark corners of my life. Now shine your light through me to bring hope and life to others. Teach me to trust you with my whole heart and drive away every shadow of the day as I turn to you for guidance.

Dec 2 John 1: 10 - 18

Great I AM...You are the God who never changes. Constant in character, unique in beauty, your promises never fail. You alone know how to love and care for me perfectly. I praise you because I can trust you. Enable me to see you at work within every circumstance. Remove the roadblocks that keep me from your presence and fix my heart on following you.

Dec 3 Psalm 103: 1 - 5

God Most High...Your Name is awesome. You are the greatest and most blessed and most powerful. My hope is in you alone, for you keep every one of your promises. Quiet my anxious and wayward heart to find rest in you alone. I place my soul in your capable hands. Renew my strength today. Stir within me a fresh passion to know and praise you with all that is within me.

Dec 4 Psalm 103: 6 - 14

Ever-Present Lord...Your love and faithfulness are higher than the highest mountains. Your righteousness and justice extend deeper than the depths of the sea. You are my constant companion through the mundane and the chaotic events of this life. Tuck me under the shadow of your wing that I might experience your steadfast love without interruption. Transform my heart and mind that I might know you more deeply and intimately every day.

Dec 5 Psalm 103: 15 - 22

Everlasting Father...There is no one like you. You make the sun to shine, the wind to blow, and the rain to fall. You bring joy to those who are sad, healing to those who are sick, and freedom to those in chains. You are Mighty God! Surround me with your limitless strength. Fulfill all your purposes in my life today. May your praise ever be on my lips.

Dec 6 Psalm 19: 1 - 6

Master Creator...You are all-powerful. There is nothing too difficult for you. Every breath I take is a gift from you. Forgive me when I am tempted to put faith in my own abilities or the things of this world. You alone are my security and shield of protection. Help me to recognize your sovereign control and fully submit my life into your loving hands today.

Dec 7 Psalm 19: 7 - 14

All-knowing God...Your knowledge covers more information than everything that has ever existed in the past, present or future. Your character is kind, caring and full of favor toward all your creation. Thank you for your perfect goodness, mercy and redemptive nature that is always reaching out. Thank you for your patience that never falters. Teach me to fix my thoughts on worshipping you today.

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Week Two - Behold Him as a Baby in the Manger

Dec 8 Isaiah 9: 1 - 7

Wonderful Counselor...In a world that oozes worry, not peace, rekindle the hope-filled message of the Christmas story within my heart. Fill me with the fresh wonder of Mary, the unquestioning obedience of Joseph, the eagerness of the shepherds, the adoration of the wise men, and the precious peace of the Christ-child. May the joy of my relationship with You be so transparent that others are drawn to the Savior.

Dec 9 Luke 1: 26 - 38

Son of God...As my thoughts turn to the manger today, teach me to bow my heart in worship. Nudge me to step back from the "Christmas frenzy" by taking time for holy pauses throughout the day to calm my spirit. Allow me to sense the tender touch of your love which is so great that it encompasses the entire world, yet still embraces me personally and intimately.

Dec 10 Luke 2: 1 - 7

Promised Messiah...Gentle King born in the barest of palaces. Teach me to appreciate your miraculous and humble entrance into the little town of Bethlehem. You came to a people who offered no room at the inn. Forgive me for the times I offer you no room in the inn of my heart. Take your rightful place today on the throne of my life and at the center of my family.

Dec 11 Luke 2: 8 - 20

Tender Shepherd...You are never far off. Nothing escapes your notice. You are the God who sees and is fully aware of everything that happens in my life. When worldly cares distract my attention, pull me back to the humble stable. In quiet moments of prayer, bring to life the smell of the hay, the sound of the animals, and the gentle cry of a baby. Open my heart to behold you just as the shepherds did on that miraculous starry night of your birth.

Dec 12 Luke 2: 21 - 32

Covenant Keeper...All that you promise comes to pass. All that you declare is absolutely right and just. There is no deceit in you at all. You never hedge the truth or mislead your children. Strengthen my faith in your promises and send me out to serve a lost world as the hands and feet of Jesus. Teach me to value the things that you value and strengthen my resolve to obey.

Dec 13 Luke 2: 36 - 40

Abba Father...Thank you for listening to prayer no matter how young or old we are. We do not deserve your loving attention, but you constantly extend grace and blessing to your children. As I come in prayer today, help me find a balance between talking and listening. Change my "listing" heart with all its needs and endless problems into a "listening" heart positioned to hear what you have to say.

Dec 14 Matthew 2: 1 - 6

Lord of Glory...You sent mankind's greatest gift to earth, not wrapped in a beautiful package under a decorated tree but wrapped in the skin of flesh and swaddled against the crude wood of a manger. You rewrapped that perfect gift a second time in the ugly scars of my sin, nailed to the rugged wood of a cross. Teach me to take up the cross by surrendering my life to follow wherever you lead today.

Dec 15 Matthew 2: 7 - 12

Gracious Provider...Everything I have was first given by you. You provide for all my needs. Help me to see, hear, and know your living presence that abides within me. Form me into a thankful witness who reflects your glory through the way I live. Forgive me for moments of half-hearted worship. Soften my heart to enter your presence like the wise men who offered their very best gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

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Week Three - Behold Him as Savior on the Cross

Dec 16 John 10: 7 - 18

Good Shepherd...I only know what real love is because you sacrificed your life on the Cross for me. Whenever it costs me something to love others, remind me of the price your love paid when I was a lost and wandering sheep. Allow your never-ending, never-failing love to flow through me to touch others. Penetrate and soften the hearts of my unsaved loved ones that they may respond to the Good Shepherd's voice this Christmas.

Dec 17 John 18: 28 - 40

Righteous One...Through your trial, suffering and death on the Cross, I stand righteous before you! Through your resurrection, you guaranteed my eternal life with you. As I meditate on your love and glorious sacrifice today, let others see evidence that I have a close, genuine relationship with you. Cause my life to produce a deep yearning to encounter you in the lives of everyone I meet.

Dec 18 John 19: 1 - 16

Perfect Sacrifice... On the Cross, the horror of my sin and rebellious pride were overcome by your unblemished holiness. On the Cross your great plan, shrouded in humility, completely crushed Satan forever. Thank you for proving the extreme intensity of your love for me through the extreme intensity of your suffering for me. Help me to walk in the power of the new life you freely give.

Dec 19 Luke 23: 32 – 43

Forgiving Savior...You alone provide the remedy for my brokenness. You heal my physical diseases and my spiritual sickness. You remove all condemnation and forgive my every sin. When Satan tries to deceive with his lies and despair, I need only look to your nail-scarred hands to know the full extent of your forgiveness and mercy. Unveil my eyes to see a clear picture of your loving face today.

Dec 20 2 Corinthians 5: 14 – 21

Merciful Lord... Your compassion took the judgment that was rightfully mine and placed it on your own shoulders so that I might be a new creation. Redeem and free me from fear, destructive habits and the burden of past mistakes that keep me from an abundant life. Give me grace to live humbly in daily repentance of my sins, bearing all suffering with patience, and then sharing the joy of my new life with others.

Dec 21 1 Corinthians 1: 18 – 25

Amazing God...Every time I look toward the blood-stained Cross, it brings into focus your might and glory. It proves for all time that you will never abandon me and that you are completely worthy of trust. In this fallen world where suffering lurks around every corner, I can have complete confidence that you are always with me. Fix my heart with a steadfast faith in the perfect wisdom of your plan today.

Dec 22 Luke 24: 1 – 8

Risen Master...Prince of Peace. You burst from the tomb and claimed the right to reign as Lord of my life. I come to you now, surrounded by the cares of this world, in need of your peace that surpasses all understanding. Prepare my heart to wait trustfully and quietly, knowing that you hold all things safely in your hands. Give me a genuine awareness of your powerful grace at work in my life and make me bold to extend that grace to others.

Dec 23 Luke 24: 36 – 49

Living Word...As I behold you on the Cross, I see the priceless value of people in the eyes of God. Fill me with a passionate zeal and desire to be your witness. Guide me to work persistently towards the salvation of anyone who will believe. Let my life demonstrate unrestrained devotion to you in every circumstance that comes. Multiply my fruitfulness in impacting others for your eternal glory.

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Week Four - Behold Him as King of Kings at the End of Time

Dec 24 I Peter 1: 3 – 9

Mighty Deliverer...Open my eyes to behold a fresh view of the glory of Jesus on the special day of Christmas Eve. Give me a new taste of the wonderful inheritance you provide for your children; a new experience of the inexpressible joy available to me right now; and a new revelation of your mercy as the true source of all blessings. Keep me attentive to what truly matters in life, undistracted by trivial trials.

Dec 25 Hebrews 4: 14 – 16

Great High Priest... Jesus, you are the story of my salvation. Present in the beginning with the Father, born as a child in a manger, now seated at the right hand of God interceding for me. You are Emmanuel, a present God when life seems to go haywire. Through all the loneliness, disappointments, pain, and sorrow you understand everything. Empower me to empathize and love others well in each season and circumstance.

Dec 26 2 Peter 1: 3 – 11

All-Powerful One...All glory, majesty, power, and authority belong to you! Ever faithful to your covenant promises, you relentlessly pursue and transform me. Guide my steps, that I might walk in the unique purposes for which you created me. Infuse my fickle soul with faith to trust your perfect ways and timing. Give me strength to fully accomplish all the tasks and opportunities which you set before me today.

Dec 27 Revelation 5: 1 – 14

Lamb of God...In your great mercy, you wait for every ear to hear the gospel message of Jesus. Use my prayers to soften the hearts of lost people and to pave the way for your triumphal return. Use every expression of my words and life as a witness to your plan of salvation. Let each conversation and every task I undertake be done for your glory. May your will be done here on earth, just as it is in Heaven.

Dec 28 Revelation 19: 1 – 10

Holy Lord...You are the One who calls and sanctifies me, yet I remain prone to doublemindedness. I stand in need of constant spiritual awakening. As this year closes, stir conviction in my soul like never before. Bring the gospel to life in my conversations with others. Help me not just talk about love but demonstrate true love in action. Infuse my life with perseverance so that I can faithfully run the race you have set before me.

Dec 29 Revelation 19: 11 – 16

God Almighty...In this world I am surrounded and overwhelmed by problems. All of creation groans from famines, floods, earthquakes, disease, and pollution. The nations are split apart by war and the slaughter of innocents. Fortify me, Lord, with strength to serve you. Give me a calm confidence that carries me forward on fearless footing, and a joyful anticipation for the glorious day of your return.

Dec 30 Revelation 21: 1 – 7

Alpha and Omega...You are the beginning and the end. You hold eternity in your hand. Soon you will wipe away every tear and reveal yourself in all your splendor and glory. Prepare me for that moment by wooing me closer through intimate prayer. Give me clear marching orders for the new year ahead. Shine into my heart the compassion and grace of your presence which heals my past mistakes and seals my indescribable future.

Dec 31 Revelation 22: 1 – 7

Eternal God...All glory to you, for you rule and reign as the centerpiece of heaven. The more I know you, the more I want to be with you. As long as you keep me in this world, give me the courage to proclaim your Name loud and strong wherever I go. Express your love every moment through me, whether you return in the next five minutes or not for another five hundred years. Be the focal point of my life and the source of my joy forever. Amen