

DEVOTIONAL

YOUTH ADVENT

November 30 – Hope

Romans 15:13

Hope is more than just wishing for something good – it's trusting that God will do what He promises. Jesus' birth reminds us that God keeps His word and that we can look forward with joy and peace because of Him. When we put our trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit fills our hearts with hope that never runs out.

Doodle: What does hope look like? Think about light, glowing in the darkness or uncertain times

Wonder: What are some promises of God that give you hope?

Pray: God, thank you for being the hope of the world, help me to find hope in the story of your birth this Christmas season.

December 1 – Immanuel

Matthew 1:22-23

Immanuel means "God with us." Jesus' birth reminds us that God came near to us. He's not far away, He is right here with us, always. Jesus shows us God's love and helps us know we are never alone.

Doodle: Draw what it looks like when God is with you—not far away, but right beside you.

Wonder: Why do you think God wanted to come so close to us through Jesus?

Prayer: God, thank You that You are near to us always.

December 2 - Gift

John 3:16-17

God gave the best gift ever, His Son, Jesus. We didn't earn it or buy it. He gave it freely because He loves us so much! Jesus is God's gift to help us be close to Him and have life with Him forever!

Doodle: Sketch a gift—but instead of wrapping paper, fill it with words or symbols that show what Jesus gives us.

Wonder: When you think of a gift what do you think of? What makes Jesus a gift?

Prayer: God, thank You for the gift of Jesus and help us show Your love to everyone around us.

December 3 -Son of Man

Daniel 7:13-14

“Son of Man” reminds us that Jesus is both God and human. He knows what it’s like to be one of us, with our feelings and struggles. The word dominion does not mean domination; it means stewardship and caretaking. Re-read the verse and where it says dominion say “care” instead.

Doodle: Illustrate how Jesus understands what it’s like to be human—our emotions, struggles, and joys.

Wonder: How does it make you feel that Jesus understands you?

Prayer: God, thank you that you know what it's like to be human, may this bring us comfort and peace.

December 4 - Son of God

Matthew 3:16-17

When Jesus was baptized, God’s voice said, ‘This is my Son, whom I love.’ Jesus is God’s Son, sent to show us who God really is. He shows us God’s love and teaches us how to live in God’s way every day.

Doodle: Create an image that shows the connection between God and the Son

Wonder: What does it mean to be someone’s son? How does God’s love for Jesus help us know God’s love for us?

Prayer: God, thank You for sending Jesus, help us learn to love like Him.

December 5 - Light of the World

John 8:12

Jesus said, “I am the Light of the world.” That means He shines truth and goodness into dark places. His light helps us see what’s right and gives us hope when things feel hard or confusing. When we follow Jesus, His light shines through us to brighten the world around us!

Doodle: Draw a lantern, candle, or sun. Inside the light, write or illustrate ways Jesus brings light to your life and to others.

Wonder: What are some “dark” or hard places you might be in? Where you could shine Jesus’ light to help you get through those dark moments?

Pray: Jesus, thank You for being the Light of the World. Help Your light shine in me so others can see Your love

December 6 - Redeemer

Isaiah 59:20

Jesus is our Redeemer, which means He came to rescue us and make things right with God. Because of Him, we don't have to be separated from God.

Doodle: Draw something broken being restored—chains falling, cracks being mended, or light filling what was dark.

Wonder: Have you ever been rescued before? How does that feel to know Jesus rescues us?

Prayer: Thank You, Jesus, for fixing what was broken and loving me so much.

December 7 – Yahweh

Nehemiah 8:10

Yahweh wasn't actually a specific word in its original way of saying of it, it was truly the sound of breathing. Yahweh is God's personal name meaning "I AM" or "the LORD". In this verse the people are learning to celebrate again after hard times, and reminded that "the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Doodle: Draw your breath—literally! Try illustrating how breathing connects you to God's name and presence.

Wonder: Take a deep breath and be reminded that we say God's name every time we take a breath. How do you think God feels that we say his name with every breath?

Pray: Jesus, thank You, for being close to me and filling my heart with joy.

December 8 - Saviour

Luke 2:11

Jesus is our Saviour, sent to save everyone from sin and bring us life with God forever. His birth is the best news ever! Jesus came to show God's love and to help us be close to Him every day.

Doodle: Create an image that shows rescue or salvation. What does it look like to be brought into light or safety by Jesus?

Wonder: Why is Jesus' birth such good news? What does it mean to be a saviour?

Prayer: Thank You, Jesus, for being our forever friend and Saviour.

December 9 - Deliverer

Romans 11:26-27

Jesus is our Deliverer because He came to save us from the power of sin and death. He brings freedom and hope to everyone who believes. When we trust Him, He helps us live in His love and gives us joy every day.

Doodle: Sketch what freedom looks like to you.

Wonder: How does Jesus help us when we feel sad or stuck?

Prayer: Thank You, Jesus, for bringing us joy and freedom.

December 10 – Lamb of God

John 1:29

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. A lamb represented a sacrifice to God in the bible and when Jesus was born and died for us His life was the ultimate sacrifice. Because of Him, we don't have to be separated from God, and we can live in His love every day.

Doodle: Draw a symbol of innocence and sacrifice—a lamb, light, or heart—to show what Jesus gave for us.

Wonder: What do you know about a lamb? Why do you think Jesus gave His life for us?

Prayer: Thank You, Jesus, for making a way for us to be close to God.

December 11 – The Way, the Truth, and the Life

John 14:6

Jesus is the way to know God, the one who shows the truth, and the one who gives life that never ends. We can trust Him in everything because of that. When we need something, we know that he provides everything.

Doodle: Create a path that represents following Jesus. What helps you stay on the path? What tries to pull you off it?

Wonder: Why is Jesus a trusted leader in our lives? Have you ever had to trust someone with something? Or trust God with something?

Prayer: Jesus, help me follow You every day.

December 12 - Messiah

John 4:25-26

Messiah means God's chosen or anointed one. Jesus is the Messiah who came to show us how much God loves us. He came to save the world and help us be close to God forever.

Doodle: Draw what "hope fulfilled" looks like—what it feels like to finally see God's promise come true in Jesus.

Wonder: Why do you think God sent Jesus to show His love? If you could ask Jesus one question, what would it be?

Prayer: Thank You, Jesus, for coming to save us and love us.

December 13 - Holy One

John 6:69

Holy means unique and pure. Jesus is completely good and without sin, and that is why we can call him the Holy One. When we believe in Jesus, we receive the gift of holiness as we decide to become more like Jesus every day.

Doodle: Draw something that shows what it means for Jesus to be holy—perfect, pure, and set apart.

Wonder: What does it mean that Jesus is holy—and that He makes us holy too? How does His holiness change how you see yourself or the world?

Pray: Jesus, thank You for being pure and perfect. Help me be more like You.

December 14 - Prince of Peace

Isaiah 9:6

Jesus came to bring peace between us and God, and peace to our hearts and world.

This verse in Isaiah is a prophecy that Jesus would come and bring peace to our world. A prophecy is like imagining what is possible with God!

Doodle: Create an image that shows peace entering chaos. Try blending calm and stormy elements—waves, wind, or noise fading into stillness.

Wonder: What does it feel like to be peaceful? Does Christmas feel peaceful to you? How does Jesus help us be filled with peace? What does peace look like in your heart or your world right now?

Pray: Jesus, be my Prince of Peace. Help me bring Your peace to others.

December 15 - The Vine

John 15:5

Jesus said He is the vine and we are the branches. When we stay close to Him, our lives grow with love and good fruit. Look outside at the branches of a tree, could that branch grow without the tree? No, it can't, it is the same for us - we need Jesus in order to grow.

Doodle: Sketch a vine and its branches—but make each branch represent something that keeps you connected to Jesus (like prayer, worship, friends, Scripture).

Wonder: What helps you stay connected to Jesus, the Vine?

Pray: Jesus, help me stay close to You so I can grow strong in Your love.

December 16 - Bread of Life

John 6:35

Just like we need food to live, we need Jesus to fill our hearts and souls. When we are in relationship with Jesus he fills us so that we aren't hungry, not in the sense of food but in faith.

Doodle: Draw what "spiritual hunger" and "being filled" might look like.

You could illustrate an empty table being filled, or a heart being nourished.

Wonder: What does it feel like to be hungry? How does Jesus fill us like food does?

Pray: Jesus, thank You for satisfying my heart and giving me what I truly need.

December 17 - Teacher

John 3:2

People called Jesus "Teacher" because He helped them understand God's truth and he is such a great teacher because he comes from God.

Doodle: Illustrate a "lesson" Jesus has taught you recently—something about who God is, who you are, or how to live.

Wonder: What are some things Jesus has taught you? What are some things you still want to learn from God?

Pray: Jesus, thank You for being my teacher. Help me learn more about You.

December 18 - Good Shepherd

John 10:11

A good shepherd takes care of his sheep and sheep need a lot of help to stay safe in the wilderness. Jesus loves and protects us like a shepherd watching his flock.

Doodle: Draw a scene that shows what it feels like to be guided or protected.

Wonder: What kind of things do sheep need in order to stay safe? How are those similar to the things Jesus does for us? What does it mean that Jesus lays his life down for us? What dangers or distractions pull you away, and how does Jesus lead you back?

Pray: Thank You, Jesus, for guiding and watching over me.

December 19 - King of Kings

1 Timothy 6:15

Jesus is greater than every other ruler, leader, or power in the world. Earthly kings and queens might have crowns but they are crowns that don't last forever. Jesus' kingdom will never end! When He was born in a manger, it didn't look like a king had arrived, yet Jesus would become the greatest King of all.

Doodle: Draw the first thing you think of when you think of the word king. Now draw a picture of Jesus as a baby.

Wonder: What differences do you see between an earthly king and Jesus? When you think of a king, what do you think of? Do you see a tiny baby as a king?

Pray: Jesus, help me know you have all power.

December 20 - Friend

John 15:13-15

Jesus calls us His friends! When we are friends with someone, we know that we can share with that person. Jesus tells us that He is sharing all things from God with us. Jesus is a friend like no other, willing to die for us so that we can have relationship with God.

Doodle: Create a visual that shows what friendship with Jesus looks like to you.

Wonder: Re-read verse 13, what does that mean? To lay down His life for us? How is His friendship different from any other?

Pray: Jesus, thank You for being a friend willing to die for me. Help me be a good friend to others.

December 21 - Love

1 John 4:8

God's love is the reason for Christmas! Everything He did: sending Jesus, forgiving us, being with us, all show how much He loves us.

Doodle: Illustrate how God's love moves through you to others—like light, water, or roots spreading life.

Wonder: How can you show God's love to someone this week?

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for showing us Your amazing love through Jesus this Christmas season.

December 22 - The Word

Read John 1:1, 3 + 14

Before the world even began, The Word existed, and The Word helped to form creation. The Word then became human and lived among us - that's Jesus! Everything Jesus said and did shows us what God is like because we know Jesus is God in human form.

Doodle: Design an image that shows Jesus as The Word - God's message made visible. How does His story shape your story?

Wonder: What do we learn about God when we look at Jesus' life and words?

Pray: God, thank You for sending Jesus to show me who You are.

December 23 - Wonderful Counselor

Isaiah 9:6

Jesus knows what's best for us and gives perfect wisdom. When we're confused, worried, or don't know what to do, we can ask Him for guidance.

Doodle: Draw what it feels like to be confused. Draw how it feels when God calms our confusion and gives us guidance.

Wonder: When you need to make a decision, who do you ask for help? Could you ask Jesus for help? How do you hear His wisdom guiding you?

Pray: Jesus, thank you for listening to me and guiding me. Help me follow You each day.

December 24 - Morning Light

Luke 1:76-79

This scripture is Zechariah speaking about John the Baptist who would prepare the way for the Lord - the Morning Light from heaven was about to shine. That light is Jesus! Just like the morning star appears before sunrise, Jesus came to bring light and hope into a dark world.

Doodle: Draw a picture that shows light breaking through darkness. Imagine what it looks like when Jesus - the Morning Light - brings hope to people who feel lost or discouraged.

Wonder: Look up what the "morning star" is. How does Jesus bring light and hope to people who feel stuck in darkness?

Pray: Jesus, my Morning Light and Morning Star, thank You for shining Your light into the world. Help me follow Your light and share Your hope with others.

December 25 - Jesus

Matthew 1:20-21

Of course, one of the names of God is Jesus, Jesus is God here on earth as a human.

The name Jesus means "The Lord saves". At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus, He came to rescue us and bring us closer to God showing us God's character in human form.

Doodle: What are some things that you feel you need saving from? Draw symbols or an illustration of being saved by Jesus.

Wonder: What did Jesus save us from? How can we remember to stay close to Jesus during Christmas?

Prayer: Thank you, Jesus, for coming to save me and everyone in the world.