

Grace Guide



DECEMBER 1-7

“Where Are We Going?”

Advent 2: Pathfinders and Trailblazers

MONDAY
12/1

ISAIAH 11:1-10

The prophet Isaiah’s vision of a shoot growing from the stump of Jesse reminds us that God often brings renewal out of what appears lifeless or broken. The promised Messiah would lead with wisdom, righteousness, and peace, guiding people into a future they could not create on their own. As we journey through Advent, this prophecy calls us to trust that the Messiah still leads us forward even when our path feels uncertain or slow. Jesus, our trailblazer, shows us a way of life marked by justice, compassion, and hope, inviting us to become pathfinders who extend that hope into the world around us.

1. Where do you see areas in your life that feel like “stumps,” and how might God be preparing new growth?

2. What does it mean for you to follow Jesus when your circumstances feel unclear or discouraging?

TUESDAY
12/2

MALACHI 3:1-4

The prophet Malachi describes God sending a messenger to prepare the way, followed by the Lord who comes to refine and purify God's people. The images of refining fire and cleansing soap remind us that God lovingly shapes us so that our lives reflect God's character more clearly. Advent is a season of preparation, inviting us to let God transform our hearts, motives, and actions. As we welcome that refining work, we become people whose lives point others toward the hope Jesus brings.

1. How do you experience God refining and purifying your life?
2. How are you actively cooperating with God in this refining process?

WEDNESDAY
12/3

ACTS 3:17-21

Peter, after healing the man who was born unable to walk, explains to the people who gathered in awe that even though the crowd acted in ignorance in condemning Jesus to death, God worked through their actions to fulfill the promises spoken through the prophets. Jesus brings blessing by turning people from destructive paths toward life, offering restoration and renewal to all who turn to him. Advent reminds us that God uses both our strengths and failures as part of a larger story of redemption. When we follow the way of Jesus, we join in God's work of helping others discover the life and hope he offers.

1. In what ways has Jesus redirected your life from a harmful path toward something life-giving?
2. How does knowing that God can redeem even your failures encourage you in this season of preparation?

THURSDAY
12/4

ROMANS 15:4-13

Paul reminds us that the Scriptures were given to teach us endurance and to strengthen our hope so that we may live in harmony as followers of Jesus. Christ became a servant to both Jews and Gentiles, opening a new path where unity replaces division and hope replaces despair. As we journey through Advent, we remember that Jesus is the trailblazer who brings people together under the mercy of God. When we walk in his way – choosing encouragement, perseverance, and mutual acceptance – we help clear the path for others to see the hope that God freely offers.

1. What are some passages of scripture that have recently encouraged your endurance or strengthened your hope?
2. Where is God inviting you to pursue unity or reconciliation as part of your Advent preparation?

FRIDAY
12/5

PSALM 72

Psalm 72 offers a vision of a king who rules with justice, defends the poor, and brings peace and flourishing to all. This prayer points us toward Jesus, the true king whose reign brings righteousness wherever his way is followed. During Advent, we remember that his kingdom values – compassion, justice, and mercy – are meant to shape our daily choices. As we align our lives with his character, we help others glimpse the goodness of the King whose coming we await.

1. Which part of this psalm's picture of a righteous king speaks to you most today?
2. How can the choices you make today reflect the kind of kingdom Jesus brings?

