

December 15 | Sunday

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

Read [Isaiah 11:1-10](#) / [Matthew 18:3](#)



16 | Mon – Making memories | Read [Matthew 18:3](#)

Who seems to enjoy the Christmas season most in your family...the children? What made Christmas a special time when you were growing up? Do you have any favorite memories? Have your feelings changed as you grew older or do you still consider it the most wonderful time of the year? Why or why not? What are some challenges a family might face that could make this a less-than-wonderful time for them? Is there something you could do to help?

17 | Tue – Green in unexpected places | Read [Isaiah 11:1](#)

Trees are often used in the Bible as a symbol of life. The tradition of decorating an evergreen tree at Christmas began as a reminder there is life even during the lifeless season of winter. Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would come from the family tree of David whose father was Jesse. This scripture describes how his family tree had become a seemingly dead stump, yet a shoot would spring up and bear fruit. When God makes promises, He keeps them. How might this truth give hope to you right now or to someone you know?

18 | Wed – The most wonder-filled time of the year | Read [Psalm 65:1-8](#)

To wonder means to marvel or be filled with awe when something unexpected or amazing happens. The story of Jesus' birth is filled with many events that caused wonder for Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, the wise men, Simeon and Anna. Your life may not feel 'wonderful' right now but you can be intentionally filled with wonder as you look around. What do you consider a 'wonder' in your current circumstances?

19 | Thu – Wonder comes in all shapes and sizes | Read [Mark 9:15](#) / [Psalm 78:32](#)

Jesus' birth was wonder-filled but even more so, his approximately three-year ministry. Lame people were healed, the blind gained sight, dead people were raised to life, forgiveness was received and given, relationships were restored but most of all, Jesus gave people hope. Not every person who saw the miracles believed but those who did were changed forever. Know anyone who needs hope? Will you share about the wonders God has shown you?

20 | Fri – Less is more | Read [Matthew 25:35-35, 40](#)

Have you ever experienced the joy that comes from focusing *less* on yourself and *more* on others? There are many opportunities to do so as you go through the activities unique to this season. The verses above may help when you become stressed by all the things you still need to do. Will you find the wonderful joy that comes from treating the people in front of you as if they were Jesus?

21 | Sat – Look for and record | Read [Esther 6:1](#) / [Psalm 105:4-5](#)

Looking back over this past week, have you experienced any moments of wonder? How did they happen? Record them below and keep looking for others. This might just become your most wonder-filled Christmas yet: _____
