

DECEMBER 7

Isaiah 9:7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

WHICH OF THESE VIRTUES DO YOU LONG FOR THE MOST?

Thank God that Jesus brings real peace forever.

DECEMBER 8

Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

WHICH TITLE FOR JESUS HERE IS YOUR FAVORITE, AND WHY?

Ask God to help you know Jesus fully and live in His peace.

DECEMBER 9

Isaiah 40:3, 5 A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God...And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

WHO CAME BEFORE JESUS TO PREPARE THE WAY?

Ask God to use you to prepare the way for Jesus.

DECEMBER 10

Malachi 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

WHO DOES JESUS IDENTIFY AS THE ELIJAH WHO CAME BEFORE HIM?

Ask God to help you always point people to Jesus.

DECEMBER 11

Micah 5:2 But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, from the days of eternity.

IS 600 YEARS TOO EARLY TO PREDICT BETHLEHEM AS JESUS' BIRTHPLACE? WHY OR WHY NOT?

Thank God that He always tells the truth.

DECEMBER 12

Malachi 3:1 Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

HOW IS JESUS THE MESSENGER AS WELL AS THE COVENANT?

Thank God that Jesus came.

DECEMBER 13

Jeremiah 31:15 Thus says the LORD: “A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.”

WHERE DID THEY TAKE JESUS TO ESCAPE HEROD'S CRUELTY?

Thank God that nothing can stop His purposes.

DECEMBER 14

Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.

HOW WAS THIS PROPHECY FULFILLED WHEN JESUS' FAMILY MOVED TO NAZARETH?

Thank God for the fine details of His plan for Jesus--and you!

DECEMBER 15

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

WHY DOES JESUS THE KING RIDING ON A DONKEY BRING GREAT REJOICING?

Ask God to help you rejoice!

DECEMBER 16

Zechariah 11:12-13 And they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver. Then the LORD said to me, “Throw it to the potter.” So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD, to the potter.

WHY DO YOU THINK JUDAS SOLD JESUS OUT FOR 30 SILVER COINS?

Ask God to help you know the wonder of His plan for you.

DECEMBER 17

Zechariah 12:10 And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

WHEN DID THEY PIERCE JESUS?

Thank God for sending His Son for our sin.

DECEMBER 18

Luke 1:46-47 And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.”

DISCUSS THE WONDER OF THE ANGEL'S NEWS TO MARY ABOUT THE BABY SHE WOULD BEAR.

Ask God to help you magnify Him even in circumstances you do not understand.

DECEMBER 19

Luke 2:8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

IS ANY PERSON OR GROUP BEYOND THE REACH OF GOD'S LOVE AND CARE?

Pray for people you know who need to see the wonder of God this Christmas.

DECEMBER 20

Luke 2:9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOU COULD SEE THE ANGELS WHO ARE ALL AROUND YOU?

Ask God to fill you with wonder and trust at His presence and His loving care for you.

DECEMBER 21

Luke 2:10 And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”

WHAT DOES THE ANGEL WANT THE SHEPHERDS TO UNDERSTAND ABOUT GOD?

Ask God to help you understand all that He wants to say to you this Christmas.

DECEMBER 22

Luke 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

HOW WAS THIS BABY WHO WAS BORN IN BETHLEHEM THE MOST WONDROUS EXPRESSION OF LOVE THE WORLD HAD EVER KNOWN?

Thank God for the wonder of His love for us that He showed by sending Jesus to earth.

DECEMBER 23

Luke 2:12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST WONDER FOR YOU ABOUT GOD'S SON BEING BORN AS A BABY AND LAID IN A MANGER?

Thank God the Father for the wonder He is and the wonder that Jesus is.

DECEMBER 24

Luke 2:13-14 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

HOW DOES THIS VERSE HELP US KNOW MORE FULLY HOW GOD WANTS US TO LIVE THIS LIFE?

Ask God to empower you to live with your heart fully focused and surrendered to Jesus every day.

## DECEMBER 25

Luke 2:15-16 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

**WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SAY TO JESUS AS YOU CELEBRATE HIS BIRTHDAY TODAY?**

Thank the Lord Jesus for being willing to leave Heaven's glory and come to earth so that we can be saved!

## DECEMBER 26

Isaiah 53:3-4 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

**WHAT DOES THIS VERSE HAVE TO DO WITH CHRISTMAS?**

Thank Jesus for the suffering He endured in our place.

## DECEMBER 1

Isaiah 9:2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

**HOW DOES HOPE CHANGE THE DESPAIR OF DARKNESS TO LIGHT?**

Ask God to help you spread the light of His hope into the darkness this Christmas.

# MINUTE<sup>W</sup>/GOD

## DECEMBER 2020

### ADVENT EDITION



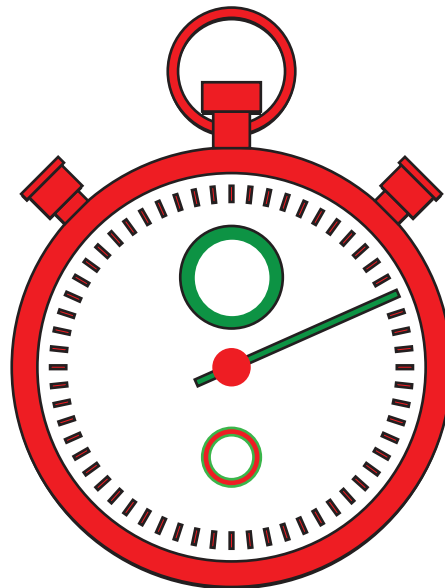
The coming of Jesus is the central event in all of history. His life, death, and resurrection make all the difference in this life and in eternity. December's Minute with God is focused on helping prepare your family and your hearts so that this Christmas season Jesus and the reason He came will be foremost in your conversations and thoughts. May the King of Kings who was born in Bethlelehem and laid in a manger meet with you this Christmas!

## DECEMBER 27

Isaiah 53:5 He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed.

**WHY IS SO MUCH ABOUT JESUS' LIFE AND DEATH TOLD BEFOREHAND IN THE OLD TESTAMENT?**

Thank Jesus for the wonder of His being our substitute for sin.



## DECEMBER 28

Jeremiah 31:33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

**HOW COULD GOD WRITE HIS LAW ON OUR HEARTS?**

Would you ask God to write His law on your heart and lead you to know Him more?

## DECEMBER 2

Genesis 49:10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

**HOW DOES JESUS, THE RULER FROM JUDAH, REIGN IN YOUR HEART NOW?**

Ask Jesus to rule in your heart during this season.

## DECEMBER 3

2 Samuel 7:12-14 [To David] When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son.

**HOW DOES THIS PROMISE POINT TO SOLOMON AND JESUS?**

Thank God that He can see the future and always keeps His promises.

## DECEMBER 29

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

**WHERE WAS YOUR SIN LAID?**

Thank Jesus for bearing your sin in His body.

## DECEMBER 30

Isaiah 53:9 And they made His grave with the wicked and with a rich man in His death, although He had done no violence, and there was no deceit in His mouth.

**HOW DID JESUS FULFILL THIS PROPHECY?**

Thank God that His truth lasts forever.

## DECEMBER 31

Isaiah 53:11 By His knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and He shall bear their iniquities.

**WHAT IS BEING ACCOUNTED RIGHTEOUS?**

Thank God that you can be accounted righteous.

## DECEMBER 4

Numbers 24:17 I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.

**HOW DOES THE STAR POINT TO JESUS' BIRTH?**

Ask God to help you see the wonder all around you this Christmas.

## DECEMBER 5

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

**WHAT DOES "IMMANUEL" MEAN, AND HOW IS JESUS THE FULFILLMENT OF THIS PROMISE?**

Thank God that He is always with you!

## DECEMBER 6

Genesis 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.

**HOW DOES THIS, THE FIRST SIN, POINT TOWARD THE SAVIOR, JESUS?**

Thank God that Jesus came to save us from our sin.



## FBC CLEBURNE: BEING THE FAMILY OF GOD



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