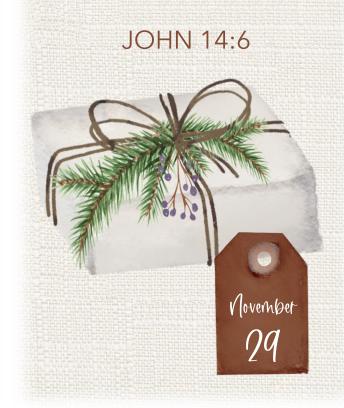


The countdown is on, and the hurry has begun. There are decorations to be displayed, meals to plan and cook, and gifts to be bought and wrapped and placed under the tree.

In the midst of the holiday hustle and bustle, we often find that we've forgotten or simply squeezed out any room for the real meaning of Christmas.

This Advent season,
let's pray together that our hearts
and minds would be drawn to
the Greatest Gift, Jesus,
and that through daily Scripture reading
and intentional focus on the gifts
Jesus gives us, we will
know Him and make Him known.







The gift of life

When we choose to follow Jesus,
He gives us life here on earth
and promises us eternal life.
What does it mean to follow Jesus?



The gift of hope

When we hope for something, we expect it to happen.
What hope do we have in Jesus?

2 CORINTHIANS 1:20



ROMANS 5:8



JOHN 13:15



2 CORINTHIANS 5:17







The gift of forgiveness

God sent Jesus to pay the price for our sins so that we could be forgiven. What does forgiveness mean to you?

The gift of fulfilled promises

Jesus fulfilled or will fulfill all the promises God made to us. What are some of those promises?





Loving Jesus changes us on the inside and on the outside.
How has loving Jesus changed you?



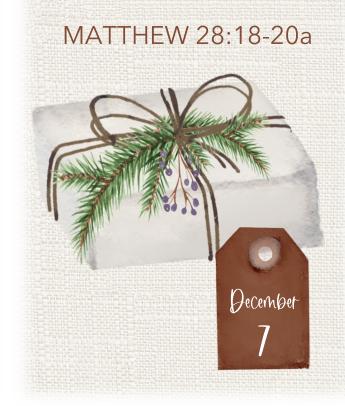
The gift of an example

God gave us Jesus to show us how we should act, love, and treat others. How can you look like Jesus to others?













The gift of joy

Some days we are happy, and some we are not, but we can have joy every day. How is the joy Jesus gives different from feelings of happiness?

The gift of an eternal home

When Jesus saved us, He gave us the gift of life and a place to live forever.
What are you looking forward to in Heaven?



The gift of purpose

Jesus came to earth to show us and teach us about God so that we could know Him. The most important thing we do every day is help others to know Jesus.

How can you show and tell others about Him?



The gift of adoption into the family of God

Each of us has an earthly family and a heavenly family.
What part do you play in the family of God?

ROMANS 12:5



1 CORINTHIANS 2:16



1 JOHN 1:9



ROMANS 8:37





The gift of understanding

Jesus helps us to know and understand
God's Word and how we should live our lives.
Think about some things
that are hard for you to understand.
In what ways do you wish you could
think more like Jesus?



The gift of Christian community

Jesus gave us the gift of Christian community so we can help and encourage one another in our faith, and so we can work together to love and serve others.

How is your church family a gift to you?

How can you be a gift to them?



The gift of victory over sin and death

The toughest battle we face is the battle of temptation and sin.

We can't win this battle without Jesus.

What temptations do you need

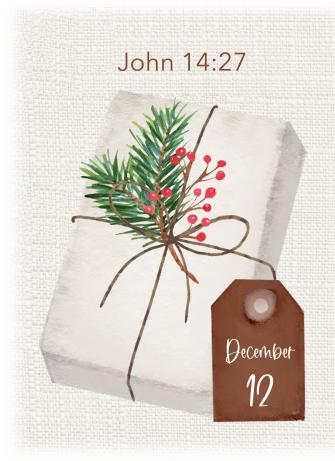
Jesus's help to overcome?



The gift of righteousness

Our sin is like an ugly stain on us. We can't erase it or hide it, but Jesus can.

What sins are you thankful Jesus has covered for you?













The gift of presence

Sometimes we feel alone, but Jesus is always with us even though we can't see Him.

How can we know Jesus is there?

The gift of peace

Often our circumstances cause us to feel worried or anxious.
How does Jesus give you peace?



The gift of protection

Sometimes life is hard and scary. Jesus is our help and protection. Can you think of a time Jesus has helped or protected you?



The gift of access to God

Because God is holy and we are sinful, there is no way we could have a relationship with Him without Jesus. How can you build a stronger relationship with God?











The gift of the Holy Spirit

When we receive the gift of Jesus in our hearts, we also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us and remind us of everything Jesus taught us.

How could the Holy Spirit help you?



The gift of carrying our burdens

Sometimes we feel weighed down by our circumstances, our failures, and our troubles, and our responsibilities, but Jesus offers to carry our burdens for us.

What burdens would you like Jesus to carry for you?



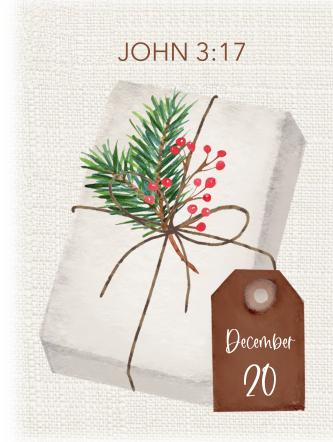
The gift of love

No matter what you do, Jesus still loves you. How can you love others like Jesus loves you?



The gift of truth

Jesus came to teach us the truth:
We are sinners in need of a Savior.
What other truths
did Jesus teach us?











The gift of grace

Grace is a gift we don't deserve and cannot earn no matter how hard we try.
God gives us grace through Jesus.
How can we give grace to others?



The gift of mercy

God showed us mercy through Jesus by not giving us the consequences we deserved for our sin.

If God had not given us mercy, what would that mean for us?



The gift of prayer

Prayer means we can talk to God at any time no matter where we are.
What things are important for you to talk to God about?



The gift of friendship

Jesus is the best friend you will ever have. He willingly died on the cross to save you! What are some other ways Jesus is a friend to you? JOHN 3:16





In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.)

And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in the manger."

Luke 2:1-12



The gift of salvation

The greatest gift Jesus gives us is the gift of salvation.
What does the gift of salvation mean for you?