

## A NEW DAY WITH CHRIST BRINGS

### 1. EXACTLY WHAT YOU NEED.

*I say to myself, "The Lord is **my portion**; therefore I will wait for him."* Lamentations 3:24

### 2. THE HOPE TO KEEP GOING.

*The Lord is good to those whose **hope is in him**, to the one who seeks him...* Lamentations 3:25

*Let us hold unswervingly to the hope **we profess**, for he who promised is faithful.* Hebrews 10:23

### 3. THE HELP YOU'RE SEEKING.

*...it is good to wait quietly for the **salvation of the Lord**.*  
Lamentations 3:26

*...The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 12 The night is **nearly over**; the day is **almost here**...*  
Romans 13:11-12

## Is God in my Life?

When you made that decision and invited Jesus into your life, it is important to know, did God hear you? Yes. Jesus promised that He would enter our lives, if we ask Him.

In Revelation 3:20 Jesus makes this offer, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me." Did you open the door of your heart to God? If so, what did He say He would do? Would God mislead you?

First John 5:14 says, "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us."

Jesus died on the cross for our sins, so that we could be in relationship with Him. He's not indifferent to the issue. He went to great lengths to bring us into relationship with Him. Jesus took our sins on Himself and covered us with His righteousness, making us fully forgiven and fully accepted by Him. We don't have to first live good lives, or perform religious rituals, or spend years begging Him. God is the one who made it possible for us to have a relationship with Him. And we come to Him based on what He did for us, rather than what we can do.

When a person asks Jesus into their life, it is exciting to know what God says is now true about your relationship with God:

**You are at peace with God** — "Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."  
(Romans 5:1)

**You became a child of God** — "to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God."  
(John 1:12)

**You are no longer living in darkness** — "for once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light" (Ephesians 5:8) "He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." (Colossians 1:13,14)

**You are forgiven** — "To him all the prophets bear witness that every one who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." (Acts 10:43) "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace which he lavished upon us." (Ephesians 1:7,8) "This is how God

showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.” (1 John 4:9,10)

**You have been given eternal life** — “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life; he does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.” (John 5:24) “And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who has not the Son of God has not life. I write this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:11-13)

**You are sealed with the Holy Spirit** — “In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, which is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.” (Ephesians 1:13)

**You can begin to know God’s love for you** — “If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.” (John 15:7-11)

To get to know God better, spend time in His word (the Bible) asking Him to reveal more of Himself to you and for Him to build your relationship with Him. The Gospel of John (fourth book in the New Testament) is a great place to start.

And talk to Him freely. We are encouraged to “Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6,7)

*From: Is God in my Life? by Billy Graham*

**We would love to walk with you on your journey with God contact [info@seekreallife.com](mailto:info@seekreallife.com) for weekly studies to help you grow or to find a life group to join this winter or just have some questions and want someone to talk about God.**

## **Welcome to Advent Conspiracy!**

**[Worship Fully]** It starts with Jesus. It ends with Jesus. This is the holistic approach God had in mind for Christmas. It’s a season where we are called to put down our burdens and lift a song up to our God. It’s a season where love wins, peace reigns, and a king is celebrated with each breath. It’s the party of the year. Entering the story of advent means entering this season with an overwhelming passion to worship Jesus to the fullest.

**[Spend Less]** Before you think we’re getting all Scrooge on you, let us explain what we mean. We like gifts. Our kids really like gifts. But consider this: America spends an average of \$450 billion a year every Christmas. How often have you spent money on Christmas presents for no other reason than obligation? How many times have you received a gift out of that same obligation? Thanks, but no thanks, right? We’re asking people to consider buying ONE LESS GIFT this Christmas. Just one. Sounds insignificant, yet many who have taken this small sacrifice have experienced something nothing less than a miracle: They have been more available to celebrate Christ during the advent season.

**[Give More]** God’s gift to us was a relationship built on love. So it’s no wonder why we’re drawn to the idea that Christmas should be a time to love our friends and family in the most memorable ways possible. Time is the real gift Christmas offers us, and no matter how hard we look, it can’t be found at the mall. Time to make a gift that turns into the next family heirloom. Time to write mom a letter. Time to take the kids sledding. Time to bake really good cookies and sing really bad Christmas carols. Time to make love visible through relational giving.

**[Love All]** When Jesus loved, He loved in ways never imagined. Though rich, He became poor to love the poor, the forgotten, the overlooked and the sick. He played to the margins. By spending less at Christmas we have the opportunity to join Him in giving resources to those who need help the most. As we as a community of faith continue to take hold of these simple steps in Advent Conspiracy we have been able to feed and help and support many individuals and families in our community. One less gift, unbelievable presence in the name of Christ.