Prayers for the Sundays of Advent

Tiece L King

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Week 1

Ask God for a fresh revelation of the significance of the incarnation. Commit to Him in prayer, your desire to be still this Advent season and know that He is God. Thank You Father that Jesus became flesh and lived among us, and that His glory was revealed! Father, thank You for sending Jesus, Your own Son, in the likeness of sinful man, to be a sin offering for me, providing the way for me to become Your child. Jesus the Messiah is born!

You alone Lord Jesus are Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace. It is in You, Lord Jesus that all the fullness of God dwells, and through You alone that I have been reconciled to God because of Your shed blood on the cross. I confess Lord Jesus, that You alone are the way to God the Father, You alone are the truth and the life.

Forgive me, I pray for the ways that I have allowed the light of Christ in me, to be diminished--for You have said, Lord Jesus, that if the light within me is darkness, how great is that darkness! You, Lord Jesus, who is the light of the world and has entrusted me with the light of the Gospel, shine through me!

Fill me with Your compassion for those around me, and help me to love like You love. Destroy complacency and the desire for comfort in me. Change me that I might be willing to be inconvenienced for the sake of others and the Gospel. Open my eyes to the needs of those around me, and may I be one who invests in what is eternal.

By Your Spirit, may I always be prepared to give the reason for the hope that I have--You, Lord Jesus are my hope. But may I always do so with gentleness and respect, that the incarnation of the Gospel may be lived out through me. As I enter this season celebrating Your coming, Lord Jesus--the first Advent, I pray that the wonder of Your coming to earth would capture my heart once again. Fill me
with child-like awe and inexpressible joy. I ask this in Your mighty Name, the name of Jesus, Amen.

John 1:14; Romans 8:3; John 1:12; Isaiah 9:6; John 14:6; Colossians 1:19-23; Matthew 5:16; Matthew 6:23; 1 John 2:15; Matthew 9:36; 1 Peter 3:15

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Week 2

Wonderful Counselor

Father, I praise You, for all things come from You! You are wonderful in counsel and magnificent in wisdom! You have sent Jesus to be my Wonderful Counselor. Thank You that the Spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel and power rest on Him and that He is the One Who intercedes on my behalf before Your throne. Thank You for the instruction and counsel You give to me. May I always trust in You and not be dismayed by the circumstances that seem to have hemmed me in.

For the relationships in my life that are in disrepair, I ask for Your wisdom O God, and humility to serve others out of my love for You.

- In the handling of my finances and in the circumstances I find myself, give me Your wisdom Father.
- For the decisions that I face in the arena of life where You have placed me, I confess that apart from You I can do nothing and need Your wisdom Lord.

At the very depths of who I am may I have Your wisdom, that I might respond in each situation that I face as one who has listened to Your counsel.
Forgive me, I pray, for the times that I have been wise in my own eyes, for running ahead of You, or excluding You completely from decisions that I make. I have been foolish, forgive me O Lord.

By Your Spirit, help me to truly revere You, that wisdom may be found in me. May I reflect the likeness of Jesus and become a person of wisdom and godly counsel. I trust in You, Holy Spirit, to lead me and guide me in all truth, and I thank You, Father, that You will be a sure foundation for my times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge. Remind me, I pray, that revering You is the key to this great treasure. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Isaiah 28:29; Isaiah 9:6; Isaiah 11:2; Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; Psalm 16:9; Isaiah 28:16; James 1:5; Psalm 51:6; Proverbs 3:7; Psalm 111:10; Luke 4:18; Psalm 73:24; John 16:13; Isaiah 33:6

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Week 3

Mighty God

Father, I acknowledge that wealth and honor come from You. You are the ruler of all things. In Your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. You are mighty and awesome O God! There is no one like You. You are great and Your name is mighty in power. Thank You for sending Jesus, the Word made flesh, Mighty God in human likeness.

Father, I thank You for the promise of Your Word that with You, all things are possible--that You are with me and You are mighty to save! I believe this O Lord,
but there is still unbelief in my heart. Help, I pray. I ask, Lord Jesus, that You be mighty to save . . .

- In the hidden recesses of my living, where I have yet to be conformed to Your image O Christ--may Your greatness be displayed.
- In the lives of friends and loved ones who have yet to know You, destroy the work of the evil one by Your mighty power.
- In the brokenness of the world and the lives of those around me, reveal Yourself as Mighty God, mighty to save--and use me as Your messenger, I pray.

I know that you can do all things, that no plan of Yours can be thwarted, and that You are able to do even more that I can think to ask! And so I confess with my mouth that in every situation that seeks to overwhelm me, my salvation depends on You. You are my mighty rock, my refuge. You are mighty God, and I join in with all of heaven and proclaim:

“Holy, holy, holy are You Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come! You are worthy Lord Jesus”, the Word made flesh, mighty to save, “the Lamb Who was slain--to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength, honor and glory and praise!”

You are Mighty God, and I will worship and serve you only. In the Mighty name of Jesus, I affirm these things. Amen.

1 Chronicles 29:12; Nehemiah 9:32; Jeremiah 10:6; Isaiah 63:1; Matthew 19:26; Zephaniah 3:17; Matthew 9:24; Job 42:2; Ephesians 3:20; Mark 14:36; Psalm 62:7; Revelation 4:8, 5:12

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Week 4
Before you begin, quiet your heart and ask for a fresh revelation of God’s great Father--love for you.

Lord Jesus, how I thank You that although You are God, You did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but You made Yourself to be nothing and took on the very nature of a servant, and were made in human likeness. Thank You for Your willingness to humble Yourself to the point of death on the cross for me! Lord Jesus, You are the radiance of God’s glory and exact representation of His being--the very image of the invisible God! You are the Everlasting Father incarnate!

Forgive me, for the times that I ascribe to You attributes of my earthly father, and help me by Your Spirit to see and understand Your true character. I ask You to renew my mind in this area, that everything that sets itself up against truly knowing You would be destroyed. And I acknowledge and confess with my mouth that . . .

- You are compassionate and gracious
- Your love endures forever, it never fails
- You are merciful
- You are faithful to all Your promises
- You are mighty to save and rejoice over me with singing!

Thank You for making me Your child and for the incredible privilege of calling You “Abba” (Daddy!). How can this be? Empower me by the Holy Spirit to understand what it means, in my daily living, that You delight in me, and may this revelation change how I approach You and express my heart to You. May I become as a little child and rest in Your great Fatherly love and care, for there is a longing in my heart for intimacy that only You can fulfill. In Jesus’ Name I pray, amen.

Philippians 2:6-8; Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 1:15; Isaiah 9:6
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Week 5

Prince of Peace

Before you begin, ask God to reveal to your heart the ways that the enemy has robbed you of the peace. Recommit these things to Him . . .

I thank You Father, that Jesus Himself is my peace and that He has completely destroyed the barrier that separated me from You! How grateful I am that I have been reconciled to Him through His blood shed on the cross and now have peace with You.

Forgive me I pray, for the times that I do not cast my cares and anxieties onto You, but instead carry them myself, and allow my heart to be weighed down and needlessly burdened. I ask that Your peace, which is beyond my ability to understand, guard my heart and my mind--cover me, because I am in Christ Jesus. I belong to You. Thank You Lord Jesus, for the peace that You give to me, which is so very different than the fleeting attempts of the world to quiet my heart. Guard my heart by Your Holy Spirit, that I might not be afraid. Help me to learn to be still and know that You are God, to hear Your voice in the midst of the storms that I face saying “Peace, be still.” Keep me from fear and increase my faith. May my life be characterized by Your peace, no matter what situation I might face, that You may be glorified in me and through me, and receive the praise that is due Your name.

• May I love Your Word that I might have great peace and not stumble.
• May my mind be controlled by Your Holy Spirit and produce life and peace.
May Your strength and peace fill my life, because I belong to You. Lord Jesus, You are my Wonderful Counselor, You are Mighty God, the Everlasting Father incarnate, and Prince of Peace! With You all things are possible. I invite You into the impossible situations of my life, and ask that as I wait on You, You fill me with Your peace—for my hope is in You alone and I trust in Your great name.

Ephesians 2:14; Colossians 1:20; Romans 5:1; 1 Peter 5:7; Philippians 4:7; John 14:27; Psalm 46:10; Mark 4:35-41; Psalm 119:165; Romans 8:6; Psalm 29:11; Isaiah 53:6; Matthew 19:26

--Tiece L. King is the author of the Pray the Word series: Pray the Word: 90 Prayers That Touch the Heart of God, Pray the Word: 31 Prayers That Touch the Heart of God, Pray the Word for Your Church (PrayerShop Publishing).