

**Love:** How do these devotions teach about the love of God and the love for one another?  
**Learn:** What have you learned about where Jesus walked that helps you with where you walk?  
**Share:** What key insights have you learned this week on how to share your faith with others?

### **Monday December 26<sup>th</sup> – A Christmas Candle**

*(Read John 3:30) "A Christmas candle is a lovely thing; it makes no noise at all, but softly gives itself away; while quite unselfish, it grows small."* - Eva K. Logue

We are like candles that hold a flame, burning strong and bright the light of Christ. We softly give ourselves away, worshiping him and serving him, that we might become less and less, and that he might become greater and brighter through us.

### **Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> – Pleasing in God's Sight**

*(Read Psalm 19:14) "So remember while December brings the only Christmas day, in the year let there be Christmas in the things you do and say."* - Anonymous

The words we speak are reflections of our thoughts and meditations. These God-pleasing thoughts and words become pleasing in his sight because they will motivate us to Christ-like actions - actions that are seen and not just heard. Are your thoughts and words pleasing to the Lord every day and not just at Christmas or on Sunday mornings? Do you keep the spirit of Christmas alive in your heart all throughout the year?

### **Wednesday, December 28<sup>th</sup> – Eternal Glory**

*(Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18) "There is no improving the future without disturbing the present."* - Catherine Booth

If our present day situation disturbs us, perhaps there's something beyond our natural sight in the works - something not yet accomplished. The trouble we face today may be achieving an eternal purpose so much better than we can imagine. Remember that what we see right now is only temporary. What is most important, though we may not yet be able to see it, is eternal.

### **Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup> – Forgiveness Facing Forward**

*(Read Philippians 3:12-14, Psalm 103:12) "Look not back on yesterday, so full of failure and regret: Look ahead and seek God's way - All sin confessed you must forget."* - Dennis DeHaan

As we come to the end of the year, so often we look back with regret on things we did not accomplish or resolutions long forgotten. But sin is one thing we should never need to look back on with feelings of failure.

### **Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup> – Hindsight**

*(Read Proverbs 3:5-6, Job 12:12) "Life has to be lived forwards but it can only be understood backwards."* - Søren Kierkegaard

If we could walk backwards through life, so many times of doubt and questioning would be erased from our path. But sadly, we would have missed those desperate moments of trusting in the Lord, and clinging to him for guidance.

### **Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup> – God Will Lead**

*(Read Proverbs 4:11-13, 18) "If this is to be a Happy New Year, a year of usefulness, a year in which we shall live to make this earth better, it is because God will direct our pathway. How important then, to feel our dependence upon Him!"* - Matthew Simpson

Sometimes God brings a change or a challenge into our lives to shake up our dependence upon self and turn us back to dependence upon him. We are closest to finding his will for our lives, our happiness and usefulness, when we are completely in the dark waiting for that first gleam of dawn, depending fully on him to cause the sun to rise.

Look at the prayer list. Who can you pray for? Who needs a little extra help in an area where you can make a difference?

**Healing Strength:** Rex Townsend, Stan Ensich, Chris Osborn (Ken and Sandy Grubb's daughter), Janet Coons (Donna McCullough's daughter)

**Homebound Members:** Mary Hicks, Mary Schmidt, Joann Young, Jeanne Carman

**Military Personnel:** Adam Walters, Joseph Roberts, Lucas Lamkin, Adam Clark