

Advent

LET US PRAY

RC

Psalm 126

[1] When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

[2] Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

[3] The LORD has done great things for us;
we are glad.

[4] Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negeb!

[5] Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!

[6] He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.

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Fröhliche
WEIHNACHTEN!

Simple, yet powerful.

Each week there will be a prayer from the verses in Psalm 126.

Let's lean into and pray every day for a week that same prayer (and more as the Spirit leads you) and meditating on the simple yet glorious verses for that week. The Holy Spirit will be sowing with us as we linger each week, and we will watch with anticipation the wonder that will grow this season.

Truly, there will be a coming home to joy through the streams of Living Water. There is a glistening of hope because of the promise we see in Psalm 126- "Those who sow in tears WILL reap with shouts of joy!"

Take it to the bank.

This year, I am believing that you will look back and say, oh that was the Advent season the Lord did great things for me, not because of my circumstances but because of the sowing he did in the ground of my soul. I truly experienced more of God.

With you,

Rebecca Garner

Opening the Gate to Advent

Advent means arrival.

So, we are going to arrive at a gate in our imagination. When I see this gate, it is an iron gate that is high and ornate. The gate you see may be made of wood, simple and rustic.

Lord, as we open this gate into the Advent season, stir up the ground of our hearts. We want more of You.

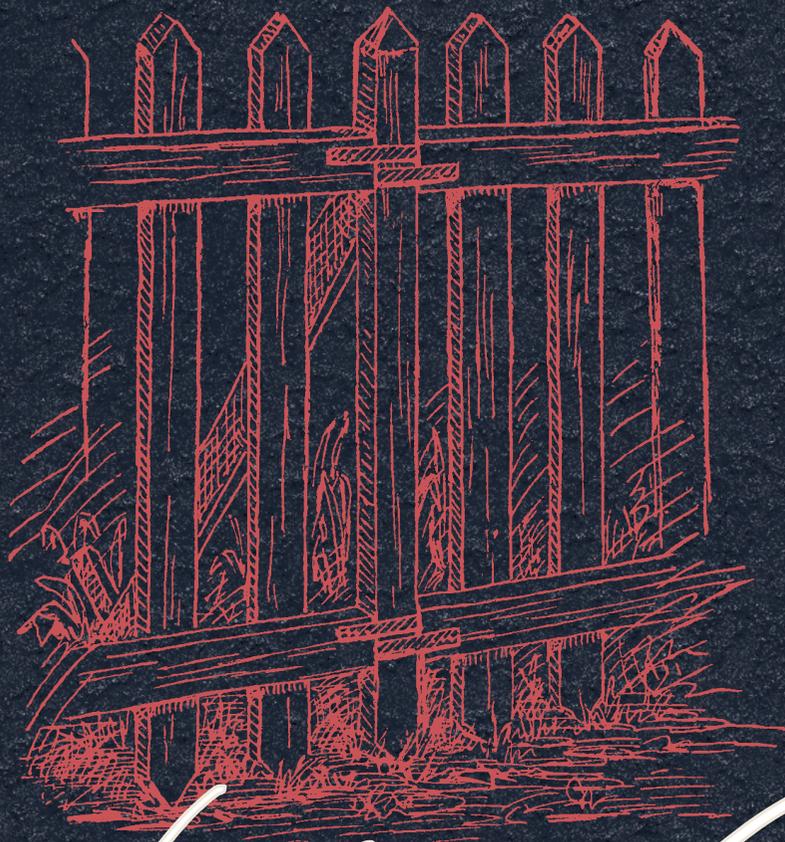
My reckoning is that this ground on the other side of the gate feels eerily familiar yet still glistens with hope, too. Eerie in that it still has the makings to be like years past when the loneliness of the holiday season stings, when the burst of anger flooded an idolized moment of delight, or when tears came instead of laughter as you gathered with loved ones.

Glistening with hope because the promise of a new song to sing is true as we look through this gate.

Not only do we see this truth but let us together begin to believe that if Christ arrived some 2,000 years ago into this hectic world, surely, he does not cease to come into our disordered souls every single day. For he so loves us.

We indeed are a weary world- souls weary and dragging.

But I believe with everything I have in me to believe that Jesus wants the Holy Spirit as the herald of our souls this Advent Season proclaiming the good news of Psalm 126!



Week One

RC

Scripture for the Week

Psalm 126:1

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

Additional Scripture

Acts 12:6-11

Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, "Dress yourself and put on your sandals." And he did so. And he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

Psalm 24:9

Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors that the King of glory may come in.

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Daily Prayer Through Week One

Good Father, you are Omnipotent, all powerful- always, never not without ALL power.

I look to you as the One above all things and holding all things together. You are Creator of all heaven and earth, you are the One before all things. You are Alpha and Omega, beginning and end. All things begin and end with you.

Jesus, I want you in this Advent season, so I say come into it, fully and powerfully. I want to behold you Jesus. The Spirit and the Bride say *Come, Lord Jesus, Come*. Come and open the gate of my atmosphere, I want more of You.

Thank you for already coming for you love me so much to come, being sent by the Good, Merciful Father.

I invite you, Holy Spirit, come in power.

King of Glory come in. Come into it all, every crevice of my soul. I want you here.

Open the gate of my mind and come in. I want to know you more.

Open the gate of my soul and come in. I want to experience the love that is beyond comprehension.

Open the gate of my eyes and come in. I want to see you as you really are.

Open the gate of my home and come in.

Open the gate of my family and come in.

In the name of Jesus, come in and make your home in me.

You have already done far more abundantly than all I can ask or imagine but help my heart believe it is true- that I may say, *I am like those who dream. You are so good.*



Week Two

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Scripture for the Week

Psalm 126:2-3

Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”
The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.

Additional Scripture

Psalm 71:19-20

Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens. You who have done great things, O God, who is like you?
You who have made me see many troubles and calamities will revive me again; from the depths of the earth you will bring me up again.

Daily Prayer Through Week Two

Good Father, you are my good good father. You are Omnipresent, you are fully always with me. Who is like you?

God, my lips declare out loud, *no one is like you.*

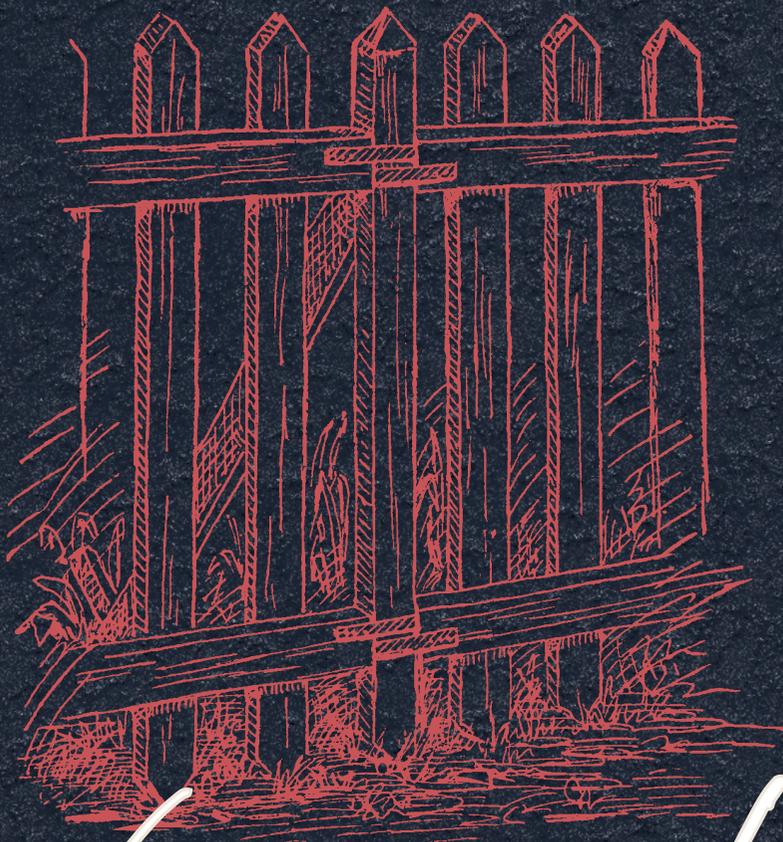
I give you this Advent season and consecrate it, Lord to you. Your kingdom come, your will be done in this season as it is in heaven. I do not want to waste another season living numb and ignoring the promptings of the Holy Spirit at work in my life so strengthen me to keep in step with the Spirit as I move through this day with you. Give me eyes to see and ears to hear.

Have your way, God. I know at some level your way is better, but would you show me it is true in its fullest form? Help my unbelieving heart and lead me towards the light.

I want more of you.

Revive the parts of my soul that are aching for relief. The places I do not even know need reviving; will you show me when you know I am ready to move into more healing. Jesus, will you arrive to the places of my soul that need you. Revival starts right here with me and you. May it be so, in the name of Jesus.

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Week Three

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Scripture for the Week

Psalm 126:4

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negeb!

Additional Scripture

Amos 9:14

I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine, and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit.

Daily Prayer Through Week Three

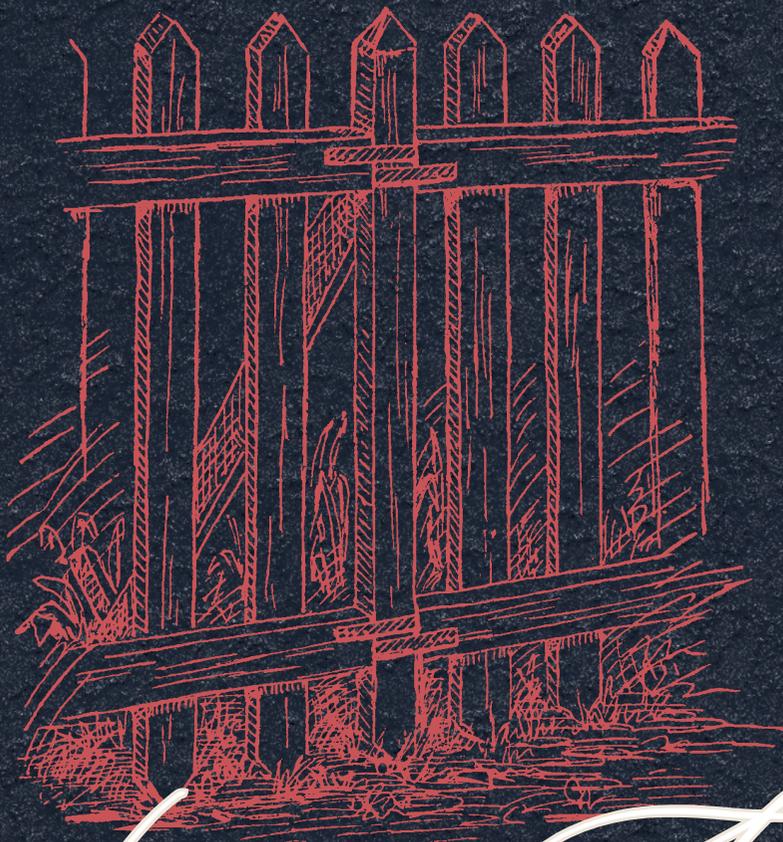
Good Father, you are my Restorer. You Jesus- restore, reinstate, and bring back to life. Thank you for your mercy in this act of love through restoration. You are Living Water through the desert places in my life.

Run free through the shadows so my eyes can see the unseen places. Strengthen my soul to cooperate with you in what you want to bring back to life. Show me what I need to turn from and into your love, your kindness, and your comfort.

Flow free Holy Spirit, flow free.

In the name of Jesus.

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Week Four

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Scripture for the Week

Psalm 126:5-6

Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!
He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall
come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

Additional Scripture

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.

Daily Prayer Through Week Four

Jesus you are the good news that brings my whole being great joy. You came to make a way where there was no way. Jesus, I want to know you more. So come and make yourself known. Come and make a home in my heart.

You are the one I need.

You are the best for me.

You are more than I can even imagine.

You are right for me.

You are my hope.

And I confess I do not even fully understand all that I just prayed but I trust the Holy Spirit to minister to me and help me to comprehend it more fully.

When I am where you are Jesus, my weeping will turn to joy. The desert places will turn to rivers. The shadows will be light.

Jesus let this season catapult me into the deeper more fuller moments with you God. More Jesus. More freedom with the Holy Spirit, one degree of glory to another.

Come Lord Jesus Come, I welcome you here with me. I want to behold you Jesus.

All of this I ask in the name of Jesus.

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