



Bible Study Tools

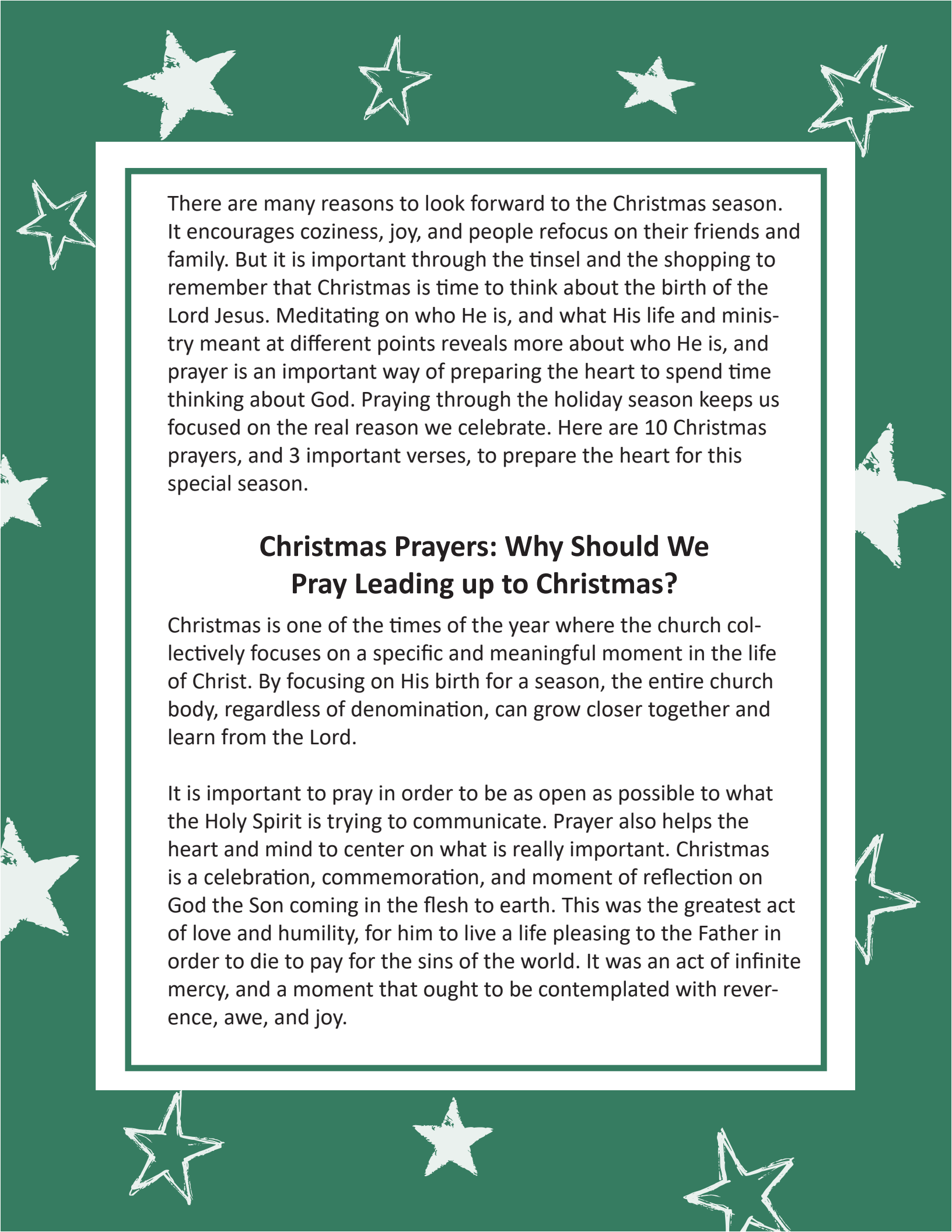
# 10 Christmas Prayers

*to Help Prepare Your Heart*



*By*

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There are many reasons to look forward to the Christmas season. It encourages coziness, joy, and people refocus on their friends and family. But it is important through the tinsel and the shopping to remember that Christmas is time to think about the birth of the Lord Jesus. Meditating on who He is, and what His life and ministry meant at different points reveals more about who He is, and prayer is an important way of preparing the heart to spend time thinking about God. Praying through the holiday season keeps us focused on the real reason we celebrate. Here are 10 Christmas prayers, and 3 important verses, to prepare the heart for this special season.

## **Christmas Prayers: Why Should We Pray Leading up to Christmas?**

Christmas is one of the times of the year where the church collectively focuses on a specific and meaningful moment in the life of Christ. By focusing on His birth for a season, the entire church body, regardless of denomination, can grow closer together and learn from the Lord.

It is important to pray in order to be as open as possible to what the Holy Spirit is trying to communicate. Prayer also helps the heart and mind to center on what is really important. Christmas is a celebration, commemoration, and moment of reflection on God the Son coming in the flesh to earth. This was the greatest act of love and humility, for him to live a life pleasing to the Father in order to die to pay for the sins of the world. It was an act of infinite mercy, and a moment that ought to be contemplated with reverence, awe, and joy.



## 1. A Prayer for Joy

Holy Father,

Thank you so much for the gift of your Son Jesus Christ, my Savior. Lord, it is easy to be stressed during the Christmas season, and I need help remaining focused on You. While this earth promises temporary happiness and distractions, true joy comes from You. Lord, help me to remember what the Bible says, “I will take joy in the God of my salvation” (Habakkuk 3:18b). Fill me up with the true joy of knowing You, and having a relationship with Your Son, and the purpose of His birth, which was my redemption.

In Jesus’ name I pray,  
Amen.

## 2. A Prayer for Love

Holy Father,

Thank you for loving us so much that You gave Your only Son to die for my sins, and be the way for a wretched sinner such as myself to come before You. Lord, I pray that in my life, You will multiply love. Help me to love my friends and family more. Teach me to love strangers the way You do. I also ask that others feel Your love at this time of year when we focus on the great love You bestowed on us through Jesus Christ. Reveal some new facet of Your love to Your church during Advent. Use Your disciples to be the light of the world that shines Your love.

In Jesus’ name I pray,  
Amen.



### 3. A Prayer for a Peaceful Heart

Holy Father,

Thank you that You provide peace that passes all understanding. It is wonderful to live a life where I can always turn to You when I am worried, upset, or when life gets difficult. Through the prophet Isaiah, You assured us that, “You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You” (Isaiah 26:3). Lord, there is often a focus on peace on earth at Christmas, but many people do not pursue You for that peace. They try in man’s power to bring about, or coerce, peace between men. But You, O Lord, are the great reconciler. Please give me a peaceful heart, so I am at peace with my brothers and sisters in Christ, as well as those who do not know You yet. I know there will not be world peace until after Your return, but I know that You can give me peace.

In Your name I humbly ask for this,  
Amen.

### 4. A Prayer against Being Too Materialistic

Holy Father,

As the year comes to a close, I know this time of year should be focused on You. While I enjoy decorating for the season, giving to my loved ones, and preparing for the new year, help me not to get too focused on “stuff.” I want to be focused on You, family, friends, and spiritual matters. Keep my heart centered on You, rather than on the materialistic message and inclination of this time of year. Have Your way in my heart, O Lord.

In Jesus’ name I pray,  
Amen.



## 5. A Prayer for Reconciliation

Holy Father,

Thank you for sending Your Son to die on the cross so that I can be reconciled to You. I know I'm a sinner separated from You by that very sin, but because of the death and resurrection, I can have a relationship with my Savior. Lord, because of my sinful heart, I know that I come into conflict with people in my life. Your Word is clear though, I should be reconciled with others just like I am with You. If I have hurt someone, show me so that I can make it right. Help me to forgive and reach out to those who have hurt me. Help me embody the reconciliation that You extended to us.

In Jesus' name I pray,  
Amen.

## 6. A Prayer to Focus on Jesus

Holy Father,

Thank you for sending Your Son to die, taking my place and paying the debt for my sin. At this time of year, I want to be focused on the miracle of His birth, and all the significance of that moment. Please help me to keep my mind on Jesus Christ and the gift of Him in the midst of the chaos, the shopping, and the stress. The church sets aside time to think about the miracle of the virgin birth, and the gift of God's grace and forgiveness embodied in a baby. Let that be my primary focus this Christmas.

In Jesus' name I pray,  
Amen.



## 7. A Prayer for Humility

Holy Father,

Thank you for Your kindness and love. Lord, I know that it took a truly humble spirit to pour out Your glory to come to this earth, take on flesh, and live as a helpless child. For You, the Creator of the universe, to give up Your power and Your throne to live among sinful man, was an act of true selflessness. Please teach me that kind of attitude. Give me a humble spirit so that I can live for You and for others. Make me more like You, O Lord. Help me to remember the great act of sacrifice that occurred at Christmas and at the cross.

In Jesus' name I pray,  
Amen.

## 8. A Prayer for Opportunities to Share the Gospel

Holy Father,

Thank you for the reminder of the good news of the gift of salvation. I praise You, my Savior, for coming to die on the cross for my sins. This Christmas, please show me someone that does not know You as their Savior, and use me to share the good news of forgiveness with them. Please use me to show Your love to someone who does not know it yet, and show them the true importance of Christmas.

In Jesus' name I pray,  
Amen.



## 9. A Prayer for Opportunities to Do Good

Holy Father,

Thank you for making Your love and forgiveness accessible to all people. Thank you that, as it says in the Bible, the needy shall not be forgotten and the hope of the poor shall not perish. I am grateful for all You have done for me, and I want to show Your love to others this Christmas season. Lord, please open my heart and my eyes, to see those in need around me, and give me the power and ability to make a difference for them. Help me to see the person to whom I can give a cup of water, a warm blanket, or a strong prayer. Guide me to someone who You want to use me to help.

In Jesus' name I pray,  
Amen.

## 10. A Prayer against Loneliness

Holy Father,

Thank you for always being with us. Your Word says that if I ascend to heaven, or go to the depths of Sheol, or take up wings, or go to the depths of the sea, You are with me (Psalm 139). Lord, many people get lonely at Christmas, because they cannot be with loved ones, due to distance, death, or disagreement. Please help them to feel Your presence; comfort them and help them to know Your joy. If someone is lonely who does not know You, please send someone to share the Gospel with them. If that person can be me, please use me in that way, to be a friend and comfort to the lonely.

In Jesus' name I pray,  
Amen.



## 3 Christmas Verses to Remember

Sometimes meditating on certain verses can also keep the focus on God. Some people also pray over certain passages of Scripture. Here are three Bible verses especially important at Christmas.

### **Isaiah 7:13-15 - A Verse about His Coming**

“And he said, ‘Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.’”

### **Luke 2:11-14 - A Verse about His Birth**

“‘For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!’”

### **Matthew 20:26b-28 - A Verse about Why He Came**

“...But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

At Christmas, focusing on the importance of Jesus’ death, and everything it means, is key to the Christian calendar. Using prayer as a tool to connect with Him and be more present and engaged with eternal things that are the most important, is one way to make Christmas more about Jesus.

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