

advent



2023

Advent is a Latin word that means “coming” or “arrival.” Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas Day on the Church calendar and culminates on Christmas Eve. It is a season full of hope, expectation, and longing.

Christians have observed Advent as a time to remember Jesus’s first Advent (His coming as a baby born in Bethlehem) and anticipate His second Advent (His triumphant future return).

Hello, and welcome to December! December can get busy. Let's slow down just a bit together. You hold in your hand the opportunity to make space daily to find God in and through His Word. You will see 25 photos that point to 25 Bible verses with the hope of stirring a genuine affection for God and His Son, Jesus.

This Christmas season finds its center in and around Jesus and His birth. Charles Spurgeon once made this statement while preaching; *"This is a season of the year when, whether we wish it or not, we are compelled to think about the birth of Christ."* (Charles Spurgeon - 23rd December 1855)

So, ready or not, let's go Fam!

Merry Christmas!

Happy Birthday, Jesus!



For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

Happy December! How does God restore what He loves? By being with what He loves! Emmanuel; God With Us has “moved into the neighborhood” to restore! Peace and love fam!



May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. (Romans 15:5-7)

I'm glad you made it! God brings endurance, encouragement, and harmony. All for His glory and our good! Peace and love fam!

**IF THERE IS ONLY
ONE THING YOU
CAN DO TODAY,
BE POLITE.**

800 S Bryan Ave Bryan, TX 77803



Remind them to submit to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, to slander no one, to avoid fighting, and to be kind, always showing gentleness to all people. (Titus 3:1-2)

Followers of Jesus must be polite in the way we are reminded here in Titus 3! Our attitude toward other people really does matter! Go and reflect Jesus today! Peace and love fam!



When they saw the star, they were overwhelmed with joy. Entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and falling to their knees, they worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

(Matthew 2:10-11)

GOD, show us your star everywhere we go that we might remember and rest in your generosity, compassion, love! Have a joy filled day! Peace and love fam!



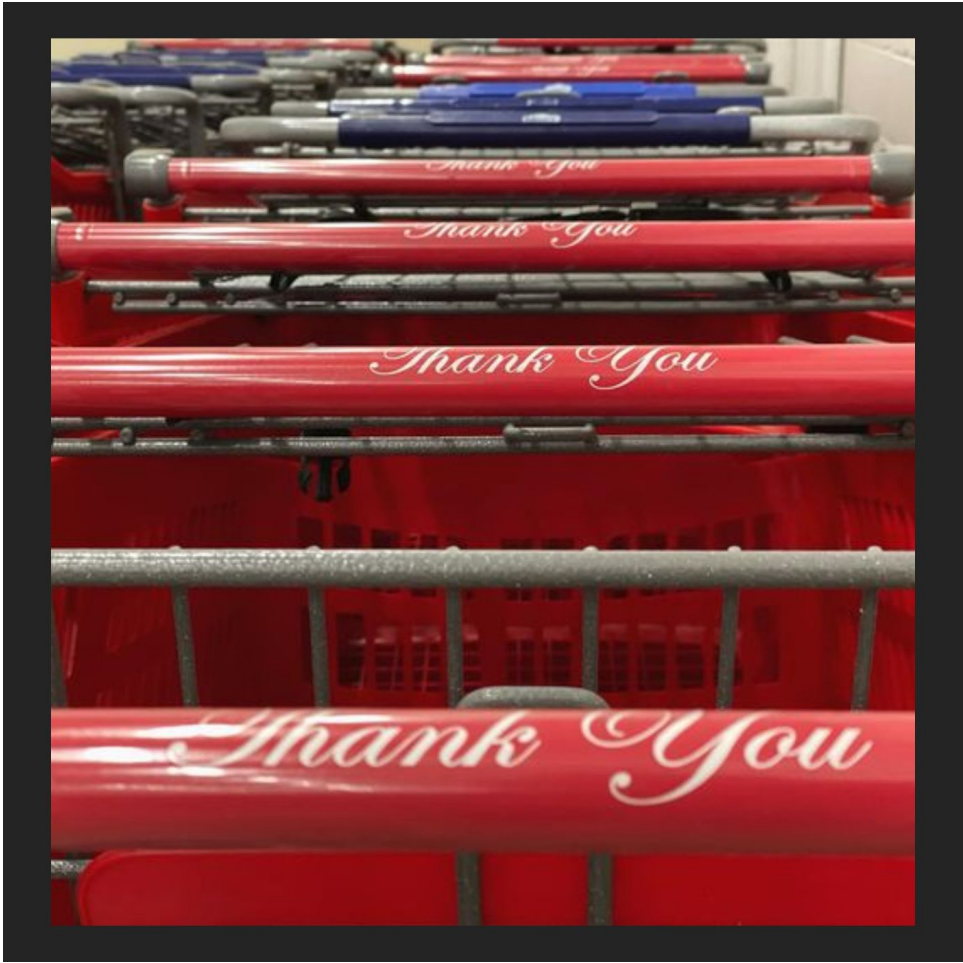
Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night. They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do. (Psalms 1:1-3)

Christmas trees will need to be discarded in January. Much JOY will be found for those who plant themselves securely to Jesus! Peace and love fam!



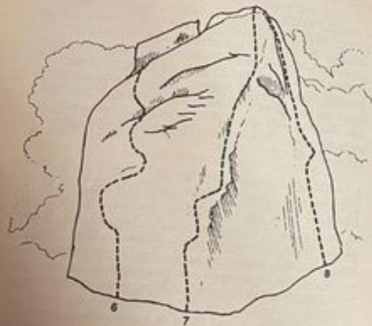
You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:14-16 MSG)

Let's be "Christmas lights that keep shining on!"
(Thanks *Christmas Lights by Coldplay*). Peace and love
fam! Shine!



God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. (1 John 4:9-10)

Today, simply being thankful! The gift of salvation through Jesus is real and has come!
Peace and love fam!



WINDOW BUTTRESS

WINDOW BUTTRESS

This is a prominent orange-coloured little cliff situated below and to the left of Edinburgh Castle. It is conveniently reached if cars are left at the nearby farm, and a route on this crag leads easily up to the base of Edinburgh Castle above. The Buttress is named after an obvious hole through the cliff on the upper part of Rear Window.

6 * Dream Twister E2 5c 70'

Worth the effort. The pro exists but the final 30' is guaranteed to make the boys shiver in their megas. Take a #0 RP along and save it for after the overhang. Start on left side of cliff beneath obvious flake/crack. Up flake, step left, up slightly then mantle shelf to good ledge. Move right to orange wall and bolt. Up awkwardly leftwards to ledge below groove. Ignore this and step right to another ledge. The trick is to now reach the steep slab which lies above over the overhang. This is best done by delicately stepping up, then gingerly making a long step leftwards to a small sloping ledge on lip of overhang below a thin vertical crack. Climb this (crux), and continue carefully to top. Iain Allan and Jess Grunblatt 10/10/90.

7 *** El Duende E3 6a 70'

This route is hard to beat. Sustained, stylish moves in a superb position guarantee it a place at the top of the best there is at Lukenia. It climbs the orange wall of the obvious prow on the right of Window Buttress. Start 20' right of *Dream Twister* at a corner crack. This is easily climbed for 10' to a small ledge on the top. The most of this - it is the last rest on the small wires (#2 and #3 RP's), can be

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news, the good news of peace and salvation, the news that the God of Israel reigns! (Isaiah 52:7)

It matters what you do with your feet! Get up and go share the Good News of peace in Jesus! The route is hard, but it's worth the effort! Peace and love fam!



One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. (Psalms 27:4)

Three things we must do with the eyes of our heart:
Open them. Seek God. Gaze forever on His beauty!
Peace and love fam!



But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).”
(Matthew 1:20-23)

We decorate everything during this season don't we!
Whatever it is you decorate, may it remind us that God came to be with us. God sent His Son to save us! Peace and love fam!



Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. (Ephesians 5:15-17)

Walk = live! It's time to walk! Wisely walk letting Jesus lead! Peace and love fam!



As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.
(Proverbs 27:17)

As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the
heart. (Proverbs 27:19)

Close friends can provide constrictive accountability
that then yields productive lives! What is it our hearts
reflect today? You are not alone! Let's stay sharp!
Together! Peace and love fam!



Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. (Joshua 1:7)

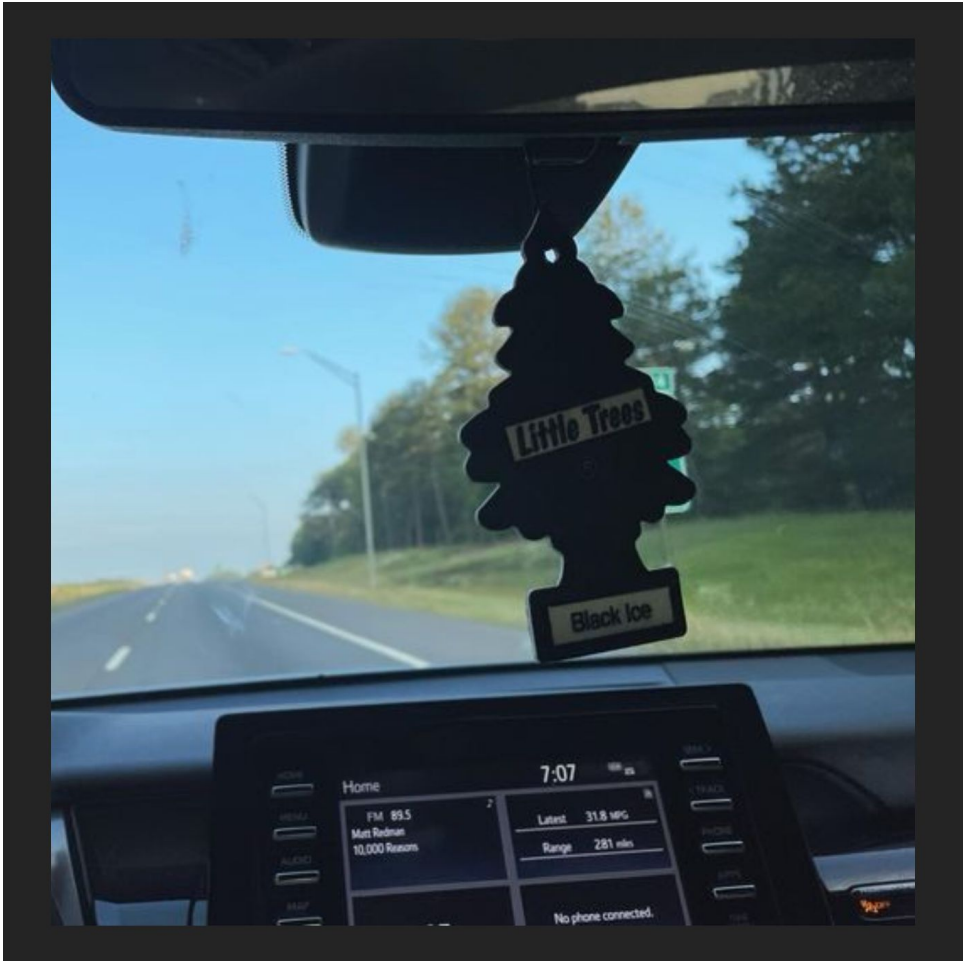
Strength! Courage! Looking to the right and left can misguide or misinform us. Lets fix our gaze toward JESUS! Peace and love fam!



Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

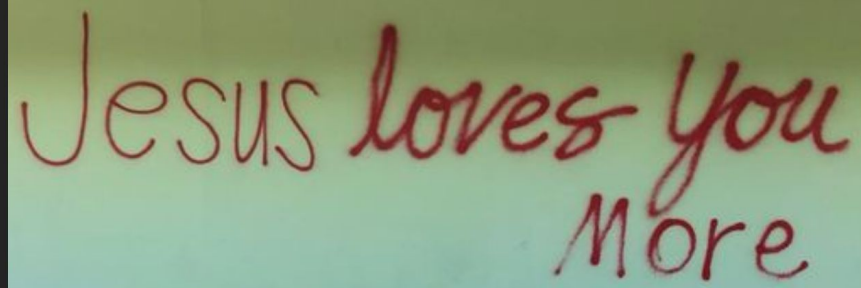
(Colossians 3:12-17)

Today's passage is longer than normal. But I realized that if we don't know, we won't ever care. So now that we know, let's together care! Peace and love fam!



Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God. (Ephesians 5:1-2)

Little Pine trees smell like black ice! Let's live a daily faith that smells like Jesus! Peace and love fam!

A photograph of a wall with a light green to yellow gradient. The wall is partially covered by white horizontal blinds at the top. The phrase "Jesus loves you More" is written in red marker on the wall. The word "More" is on a separate line below "you". The entire image is framed by a thick black border.

Jesus loves you
More

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. (1 John 4:9)

GOD stooped down to be near to you and me by sending JESUS. Our best life is lived in HIM! Peace and love fam!



Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take up my yoke and learn from me, because I am lowly and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (Matthew 11:28-30)

Life is heavy? We press on daily reasoning that the anxieties, rush, and weariness we face are simply normal. Heavy is not normal. GOD sent His Son to remind us that His intentions were quite different. Connected to Jesus, life is light! For HE is strong when we are weak. HE brings rest when we run ragged. Find rest and live light! Peace and love fam!



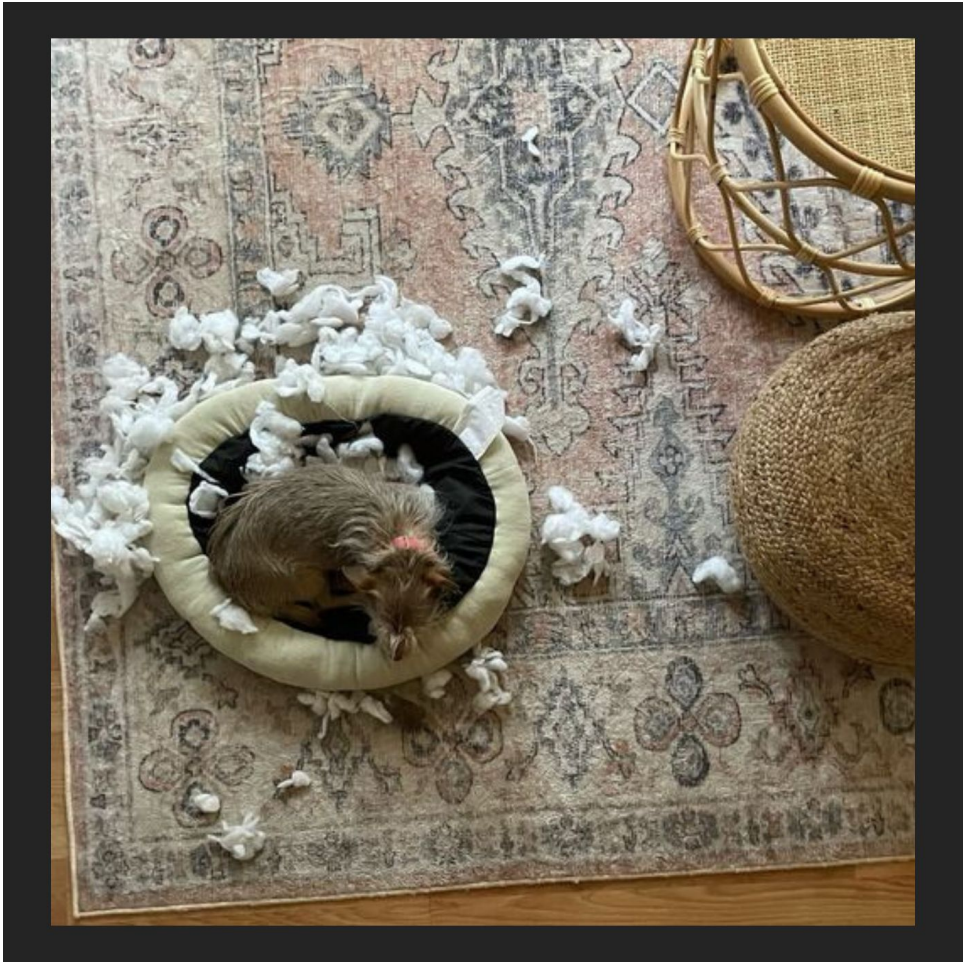
No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another,
God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.
(1 John 4:12)

Take GOD'S love and use it like a torch lighting the
way through darkness so that others may see! Peace
and love fam!



Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. (1 John 4:11)

The opposite of love is really fear. Becoming God's love in the world can be a vulnerable place. "Share Christ and Show Love!" Peace and love fam!



I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

I don't know how the stuff from the inside gets out. May the God of hope, joy, peace, and life refill us today! Peace and love fam!



You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you! Trust in the Lord always, for the Lord God is the eternal Rock.

(Isaiah 26:3-4)

You and I have enough head space where trusting God and resting in His peace can fill. Peace and love fam!



Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in the miry depths, where there is no foothold. I have come into the deep waters; the floods engulf me. I am worn out calling for help; my throat is parched. My eyes fail, looking for my God.
(Psalms 69:1-3)

Save us, O GOD!

We are looking for you! Peace and love fam!



The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed. The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time. For the Lord protects the bones of the righteous; not one of them is broken! (Psalms 34:17-20)

GOD truly is Strong Stuff! Call out to HIM and find rescue! Peace and love fam!



While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. Then she gave birth to her firstborn son, and she wrapped him tightly in cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.
(Luke 2:6-7)

Vacancy = empty or unoccupied. Let's not "illuminate the no's on our vacancy signs". Instead, let us make room for Emmanuel - God With Us!
Peace and love fam!



DAILY
GAZER

For more daily photos and Bible verses please follow
The Daily Gaze on Instagram: [@thedailygaze](https://www.instagram.com/thedailygaze). Thanks!

The Daily Gaze Advent 2023

