

Week 4, Dec.18-25 : A Serious Celebration of Our Need For JESUS

This week consider your need for a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.

Sunday: Today we ask for a fresh and deeper understanding of our need for Jesus.
Reading – Matthew 11:28-30

Monday: Today we pray for people in our lives who need to know Jesus.
Reading – Luke 1:76-79

Tuesday: Today we pray for the Good News to fill our community.
Reading – Luke 2:15-18

Wednesday: Today we pray for the Church in Canada to be faithful and find many new ways to tell the story of Jesus.
Reading – Luke 24:46-49

Thursday: Today we pray for our missionaries as they bring Christ to the nations.
Reading – Matthew 28:18-20

Friday: Today we pray for at least one person who needs to know Jesus as Saviour.
Reading – John 3:16-18

Saturday: Today we welcome Christ to come and be born anew in our hearts.
Reading – Luke 2:1-11



A Christmas Message from Your Kingsway Church Staff

We sincerely hope that the Lord will bless you and your families this Christmas season. May the presence of Emmanuel, our God with us, be felt in your lives and homes over this Christmas season and through every day in the new year to come.

Have A Merry Christmas!

- from your Kingsway Church staff

Ps Barry, Ps Dairn, Ps Joanne, Tina, Lonni, Derek, Marie, Darren

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*we exist to know Christ and make Him known
"I am the way, the truth and the LIFE."—Jesus Christ*

kingswayLIFE

december twenty-eleven

GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT CELEBRATING

*"There is a kind of happiness and wonder that makes you serious."
- C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle*

QUESTION: How can we get more out of our Christmas celebrations?

Perhaps we need a new appreciation of the seriousness of our situation so that we might more fully appreciate our celebrations! The richest rhythms of life can only reach their highest joys by understanding our deepest needs.

It's important to note that the earliest traditions of the Christmas season began with fasting ending in feasting; repenting always came before rejoicing and careful waiting finally bursting into joyful celebrating.

pel celebration. Days of thoughtfulness and prayerfulness would finally pour out in the adorations of Christmas Eve and the rich worship of Christmas Day morn.

The purpose of Advent is to feel the hunger for Christ's First Coming in a way that creates

a thirst for His Second Coming. As we celebrate His coming to

be our Saviour, we long for His return to reign over us as our soon coming King. (The word advent literally means "comings" in Latin and is a translation of the Greek word used in

the New Testament for the Second Coming of Christ.)

The ancient idea of Advent is that during the four weeks leading up to the Christmas celebrations every day should be saturated with Bible readings and prayers that accentuated the deep needs

that we all have for a fresh encounter with the Living Jesus.

"The ancient idea of Advent is that...every day should be saturated with Bible readings and prayers...for a fresh encounter with the Living Jesus."

A SERIOUS SUGGESTION:

> to celebrate seriously our need for Jesus.

> to celebrate seriously with daily Scripture readings, meditations and prayers.

> to celebrate His First Advent by seriously anticipating His Second Coming.

/Ps Barry



DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
...NOVEMBER...	27	28	29	30	1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Here are a few things happening in the LIFE of Kingsway Church through the month of December:

Saturday, Dec.3 from 1 - 3 pm: Come help decorate the Church. It's time to hang the lights, decorate the trees & enjoy a hot cocoa!

Sunday, Dec.4 at 10:30 am: Kingsway Kids Christmas Presentations—Get out the video cameras because our kids are taking the stage this Sunday morning to share their Christmas messages!

Sunday, Dec.11: A Communion Service in the morning (at 10:30 am as usual) & our Kingsway Family Christmas Event in the Evening (at 6 pm) - a Christmas Potluck and an evening of Christmas Fun...and by fun, I mean FUN! :-)

Tuesday, Dec.13 at 12:30 pm: Seniors Christmas Dinner. This is always an enjoyable Christmas event for our Kingsway Seniors. Tickets are only \$10 each when you bring a non-perishable food item for the Union Gospel Mission (otherwise tickets are \$15/each). Talk with Ps Joanne for tickets or more info.

Week 1, Nov.27-Dec.3 : A Serious Celebration of Our Need For His LIGHT

This week think about all of the areas of darkness in our world and pray for the dawning of Christ's light. Every day let's praise Jesus as the Light of the World.

Sunday: Today we look into our own heart and mind and ask God to reveal areas of darkness within us. Reading – Ephesians 5:8-14; 1 John 1:7

Monday: Today we think about the valleys of the shadows of death that we and others are walking through. Reading – Psalm 23:4-6; Luke 1:78,79

Tuesday: Today we think about the darkness that is in our community and city and pray for the invasion of God's light. Reading – John 1:4,5,9; 8:12

Saturday, Dec.24 at 6:00 pm: Christmas Eve by Candlelight. Join us for this poignant time together which we celebrate every Christmas season to focus on Emmanuel, God with us.

Sunday, Dec.25 at 10:30 am: Christmas Day Family Gathering. Christmas is about Jesus and so is Kingsway Church—so as Christmas is on a Sunday this year, we'll take time to gather as a Church family to celebrate Jesus.

Some other items to note:
...The last "Friday Night at Kingsway" for this year is Dec.2nd—Alpha, Bible Classes & Kids Zone start up again on Jan.13th, 2012.

...we will have the 2012 Daily Bible Reading Planners available starting Sunday, Dec.18th (we ask for a \$2 donation to help with the costs).

...we are planning to have Water Baptisms on Sunday, Jan.8th, 2012. If you're interested in taking this next step of faith, talk with Ps Dairn.

Wednesday: Today we pray over the areas of darkness in our nation and ask Jesus to bring light through His church to Canada. Reading – I Thessalonians 4:4-11

Thursday: Today we think about the places of darkness in our world and pray for the work of world missions. Reading – Acts 26:16-18

Friday: Today we pray that each of us might be light to our world. Reading – Matthew 5:14-16

Saturday: Today we pray against the spirits of darkness that invade hearts and minds all around us. Reading – Ephesians 6:10-18; 2 Corinthians 4:6

Week 2, Dec.4-10 : A Serious Celebration of Our Need For His PEACE

This week think about all of the areas of turmoil and strife in our world and pray for the advent of Christ's peace.

Sunday: Today we let Jesus come into the areas of our hearts and minds where we are not at peace and ask Him to rule as Prince of Peace. Reading – Philippians 4:4-7

Monday: Today we pray for those close to us who are not enjoying the peace of God and think of ways that we might encourage them to receive His peace. Reading – Romans 5:1-5

Tuesday: Today we pray for situations where there is strife and unrest in our community. Reading – Psalm 122:6-9

Wednesday: Today we pray for the Church in Canada to bring a strong message of Christ as the true Prince of Peace. Reading – Isaiah 9:6,7

Thursday: Today we pray over the nations of the world where there is no peace. We pray for Christians and others who are being persecuted and harmed. Reading – Matt. 5:9-12

Friday: Today we pray that each of us might be true peacemakers in our areas of influence. Reading – James 3:13-18

Saturday: Today we pray against the evil spirits that are behind injustice, hatred, unrest and war in our world. Reading – Isa. 26:12-15



Week 3, Dec.11-17 : A Serious Celebration of Our Need For His JOY

This week think about all of the sorrow, pain and suffering around and within us and pray for "Joy to the World".

Sunday: Today we bring our personal areas of pain and inner suffering to the one who came to suffer and carry our wounds to the Cross. Reading – Isaiah 53:4-6

Monday: Today we think of others and seek ways to share their sorrows and help bear their burdens. Reading – Isaiah 40:1-5

Tuesday: Today we pray over the suffering souls in our city. Reading – Matt. 9:36-38

Wednesday: Today we pray for the Church to be a community of joy and healing. Reading – John 7:37-39

Thursday: Today we think of the sad places in our world and pray that the message of Jesus and His joy will reach them and heal them. Reading – Psalm 67

Friday: Today we ask the Lord to use us to bring the real joy of Jesus to at least one person. Reading – Luke 19:1-10

Saturday: Today we pray against the spirits of false joy and the opening of hearts to seek the real joy of Christ's coming. Reading – 2 Corinthians 4:3-7