

A woman with long, dark hair is shown in profile, looking upwards and to the left. She is wearing a sleeveless top with horizontal stripes in red, white, and blue. Her hands are clasped together in a prayer position. The background is a dense forest of green trees and foliage, with some light filtering through the leaves.

Prepare the Way

TWR CANADA PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL GUIDE FOR
NOVEMBER 5 - DECEMBER 30, 2023



ABRAHAM AND SARAH

“Now the LORD said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonours you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’” (Genesis 12:1-3)

God has provided a way for his people since before the foundations of the earth were laid. After the fall in the Garden of Eden, generation after generation longed for a Messiah – the offspring of the woman that God had promised would rescue his people from that wicked serpent.

Abraham and Sarah (previously Abram and Sarai) are one of the many pieces of God’s provision in making a way. We know now that Abraham and Sarah are in the line of Christ, ancestors of Jesus’ earthly father Joseph. But at the time of their story, they were childless, barren, and not getting any younger! Still, God promised that they would

have a child together and that from that child would come a great nation and the whole world would be blessed. There were several bumps in the road leading up to this child, but Abraham believed God’s promise and Sarah gave birth to a son. The nation of Israel grew from this son, and Jesus, who brought the blessing of salvation to the world, was born.

Abraham trusted God and God did what he said he would do. As we think about the lead-up to the birth of our Saviour, let us also trust that just as God was able to provide our salvation then, he still provides our salvation now.

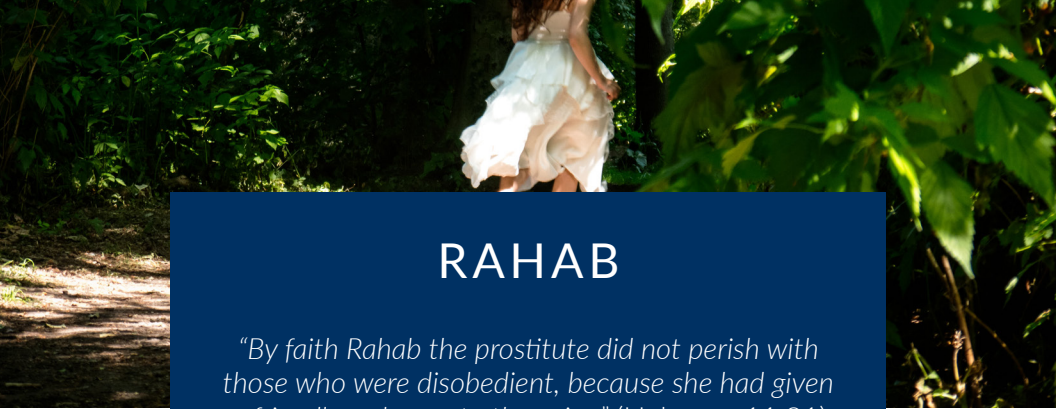
Latin America and the Caribbean

Broadcast from the island of Bonaire, TWR programming can be heard across much of northern Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as from local FM stations. Local teams also share the hope of the gospel through on-the-ground initiatives in their communities.

November

5. Pray for those listening to our two Cuban programs, *Messages of Faith and Hope* and *Our Home*, broadcast from the TWR transmitter on Bonaire.
6. Please pray for RTM Cuba leader Alberto, who is transitioning leadership responsibilities to a young man named Moisés Pérez Padrón. Pray that the transition would be smooth and effective.
7. Pray for incoming RTM Cuba leader Moisés Pérez Padrón to understand all the components of the ministry and to guide the ministry forward in God’s will.
8. In Uruguay, *Against the Current* encourages young adults to stand firm in their faith. Pray that listeners would be encouraged to live using a biblical worldview.
9. Pray for the set-up of a mini recording studio in Mexico. This will allow the team to produce a program called *The Carpenter’s Workshop*, which will provide biblical marriage advice to couples across the country.
10. Praise God for the new office space for RTM Colombia! Please pray for the logistics of renovations and moving in.
11. Pray that the DE radio program broadcast in Spanish across Latin America and the Caribbean would continue to encourage spiritual growth in the lives of listeners.





RAHAB

“By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.” (Hebrews 11:31)

Rahab, a prostitute from Jericho, made it into what is known as the “Roll Call of Faith” in Hebrews 11. She, an outsider to the nation of Israel, making a living in a less than admirable line of work, on the brink of her home being wiped out as enemies of God and his people, is noted as an example of great faith in the Lord. Not only that, but she is in the line of Christ! How can this be?

If we go back to the book of Joshua, we read the story of spies from Israel going into Jericho in preparation to overtake it. While there, they took refuge in the home of Rahab and she hid them, even after being questioned by the king’s men. Within a seemingly short visit, Rahab’s loyalty was already to Israel rather than to her home city and she tells us why: *“I know that the LORD has given you this land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us,*

and that all the inhabitants of the land melt before you...for the LORD your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath” (Joshua 2:9, 11b). Rahab knew who God was and what he had done for his people. In both her words and her actions, she expressed faith in the God of Israel.

When Jericho was overthrown, Rahab and her whole household were saved. She was taken into the nation of Israel and lived out her days with them. She married Salmon, a man of the tribe of Judah, and from this family line came Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus.

When we think of our gracious Saviour, let us remember the grace that was shown to Rahab, that she would be welcomed in. Let us have faith like this in the God who reigns and saves.

Africa

From radio broadcasts to capital projects to on-the-ground ministry and the work of missionaries, our reach across Africa is vast, just like the region.

- 12. Praise God that *Bible Stories Alive* continues to have a profound impact in Kenya! Please pray that these stories will spark a desire in children to grow in their faith.
- 13. Pray that God would work through our two programs in Burundi, *Good News for All* and *Jesus is the Answer*, to continue changing the lives of listeners.
- 14. TWR Canada missionaries Stephen and Teresa Murray are serving in South Africa. Pray for safety and God’s direction as Stephen supports the technical operations of the West, East and Southern Africa offices and radio stations. Pray for Teresa as she cares for and encourages staff and missionaries on her team.
- 15. Praise God for a new program for families in South Africa. Some of the programs are based on TWR Canada’s *Families Following Jesus* series. Pray that this program would encourage families to grow in faith together.
- 16. Pray for TWR Canada missionaries Greg and Ingrid Clarke in their roles as station manager and in the finance department at the transmitting site in Eswatini.
- 17. Across Côte d’Ivoire and Senegal, small groups are using media players to listen to programs and discuss what they have learned. Pray for growth in faith and new believers!
- 18. Pray for TWR Canada missionaries Nathan and Megan Dunlop in South Africa. Pray for Nathan as he works on the Legacy of Adam video project and for Megan as she supports the missionary children in South Africa.





RUTH AND BOAZ

“So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son...They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.”
(Ruth 4:13, 17b)

After Rahab joined Israel, she and Salmon had a son named Boaz and God continued to align the pieces of his plan for the redemption of his people. In the land of Moab, three widows were faced with a challenging decision. Naomi was originally from Israel but left with her husband during a famine. Ruth and Orpah were the Moabite wives of her sons. Following the deaths of the men of the family, Naomi chose to return to Israel. Orpah chose to remain in Moab with her people where her chances of a good future were greater, but Ruth chose to go with Naomi to a land foreign to her.

In Israel, Ruth got right to work, gleaning crops from the field of Boaz, the son of Salmon

and Rahab. It is here that Boaz takes notice of Ruth, giving her special care. As it turns out, Boaz was a member of the tribe of Naomi’s former husband, making him an eligible candidate to redeem and marry Ruth. And that’s exactly what happened. Boaz took Ruth, a woman who for her whole life had been a foreigner to God’s people, and married her. Before this, her future in Israel seemed bleak and was certain to have been challenging, but she was redeemed. Both she and Boaz were key pieces in God’s plan to bring about our great Redeemer. In the generations to come, Jesus was born. As the celebration of his birth draws nearer, let us remember our faithful Bridegroom who redeems his church as his bride.

Discipleship Essentials

Discipleship Essentials is available in more than 15 languages and is used by individuals for personal study and in thousands of small groups in Canada and around the world.

19. In West Africa, the Discipleship Essentials radio program serves French-speaking communities. Pray that listeners and small groups would integrate lessons learned through this radio program into their lives and that they would grow in capacity to produce disciples within their communities.

20. Praise God for the growth in faith we are seeing as church leaders from the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church of the Philippines are trained and receive DE resources.



21. TWR Canada missionary and DE Ministry Ambassador McDaniel Phillips works with our DE partners around the world. Pray for him as he supports them in their work.

22. Pray for our partner in the Middle East and North Africa, Together Network, as they train believers to share their faith and create spiritual movements using DE and other resources.

23. Please pray for the continued translation and production of DE. Pray for the production teams, as well as for those who will use these resources.

24. Pray for our DE Partnership Director, Tony Tira, as he discerns new opportunities to use DE, as well as strengthens partnerships and relationships that have already been established around the world.

25. Praise God for providing DE in new languages! Please pray for those who will access the materials in the Bambara, Peruvian Quechua, Tagalog and Hiligaynon languages.



DAVID

"And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever." (2 Samuel 7:16)

King David is one of the most notable members of the genealogy of Christ. Not only was he an ancestor of the Messiah, but his kingship was also a picture of the eternal reign of Christ which was to come.

David is typically remembered for his humble beginnings, his stand against Goliath for God's glory, the many beautiful songs he contributed to the book of Psalms, and for being "a man after [God's] own heart" (Acts 13:22). Even so, David was a far from perfect man and king. He used his position of power to sleep with a married woman and proceeded to have her husband killed in battle to cover up his sin (2 Sam. 11). He failed to properly discipline his son for violating his sister (2 Sam. 13). He took a census of the people which was not authorized by God with the consequences being the deaths

of 70,000 people of Israel (2 Sam. 24).

Overall, David had high highs and low lows. In the highs, he sang praises to God, and in the lows, he repented and trusted in God. Despite all the ways that David went wrong as king, God chose him and his offspring to prepare the way for the eternal kingship of Jesus. God was faithful to his promise to David that one of his offspring would reign eternally as King.

Jesus is the ultimate and eternal King from the line of David. Where David failed as king, Jesus succeeds, and where David succeeded as king, Jesus perfects. As we consider David and his successes and failures as king, let us remember our all-powerful and eternal King who rescues and rules in perfect justice and love.

China Ministry

Our China ministry includes SOTA, our 3-4 year seminary program for the Chinese church, as well as other ministry initiatives including Discipleship Essentials, *Bible Stories Alive*, and training events for Chinese church leaders.

26. Pray that SOTA students around the world would remain steadfast and dedicated to their studies. Pray that what they learn can be implemented quickly into their churches and ministries.

27. Many of the China Ministry's training sessions are done using online platforms. Please pray for protection over these platforms and pray that more in-person training sessions could take place safely.



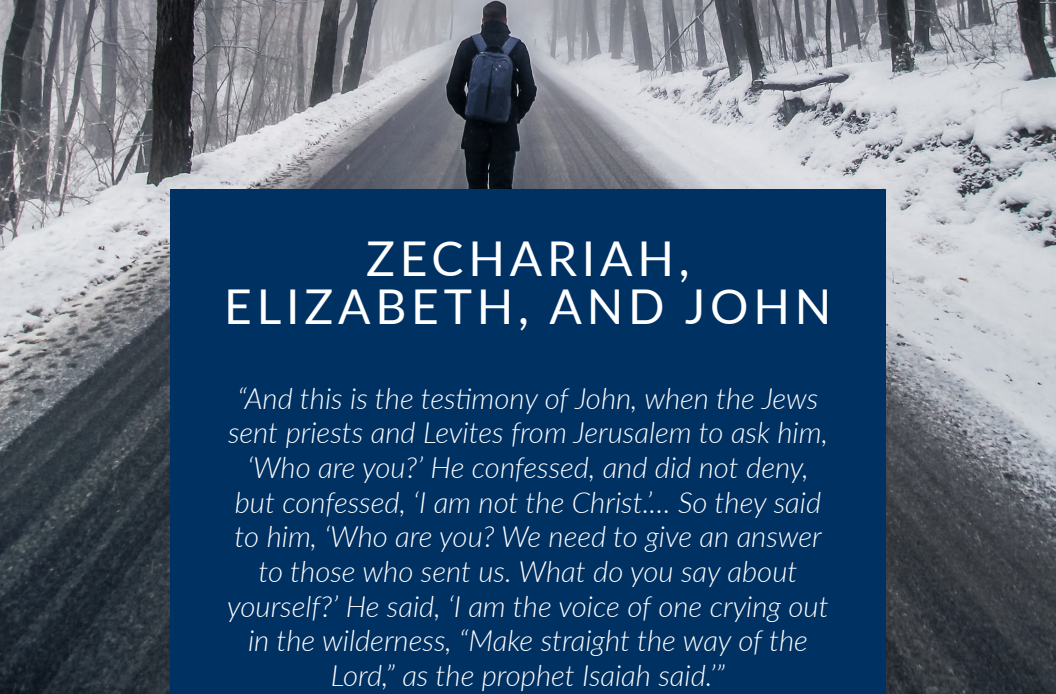
28. SOTA Director William and China Ministry Director Ruth recently went to Germany to hold the first SOTA in-person training and graduation hosted in the country in the last four years. Praise God six SOTA students celebrated graduating in Germany!

29. Pray for new student enrolment, that more brothers and sisters in China will fervently respond to their passion and calling for mission work.

30. Praise God for an increase in registration numbers in different SOTA fellowships and courses. Pray that the students would be encouraged by each other and motivated to learn.

December

1. With the completed translation and production of all *Bible Stories Alive* stories in Mandarin, please pray that God will use these stories to nurture the faith of Chinese children.
2. Though the Chinese ministry has begun implementing DE, they are doing so carefully. Please pray for wisdom to determine the best strategy to share this resource.



ZECHARIAH, ELIZABETH, AND JOHN

“And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, ‘I am not the Christ.’... So they said to him, ‘Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?’ He said, ‘I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”
(John 1:19-20, 22-23)

John was a cousin of Jesus and although he is not in the genealogy of Christ directly, he most certainly was a piece of God’s plan to prepare the way for the Lord. God chose Elizabeth (Mary’s relative) and her husband Zechariah as the parents of John the Baptist. God told Zechariah ahead of time that he and his wife would have a son and that this son would “turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared” (Luke 1:16-17).

At first, Zechariah doubted this, after all, both he and his wife were getting older, and Elizabeth was unable to have children. And yet, this was the way that God intended to provide for his people and John was the one who would prepare or “make straight the way of the Lord.” John made it very clear that he himself was not the Messiah but that the Messiah had come. Through John, many came to know and believe Jesus. God put in place all of the pieces for his Son to come and save us. Let us recognize the way he has provided and prepared the way for our salvation!

Media Content

Our media content comes in different forms: audio, video or text resources. But what unifies it all is the hope and truth of the gospel.

- In Ukraine, we are creating a series of documentary-style videos showing how people are living in the midst of the war and what they have lost and gained. Pray for the production team as they travel the country, interviewing people and filming the reality they are living in.
- The SON-Lift series began as a program to share the gospel with unreached people groups in China. Pray for the production team now creating this series in Japanese.
- Pray for the production teams in Quebec as they produce programming such as the *Parole Vivante* TV show and *Heralds of Hope’s Moment of Hope*.
- In partnership with TWR Motion, we are creating a series of videos to introduce Thai Buddhists to the gospel. Pray for the ongoing production of these videos.
- The *God’s Unique Book* production team creates the programs in response to the questions and needs of the people of Sri Lanka. Pray for wisdom as they choose which topics to cover.
- Pray for Pastor Edijan and the production team for *Voice of Truth* in North Macedonia. Pray that the programs they write and produce would answer the spiritual questions of the Roma people living in the city of Prilep.
- The team in Serbia has completed the translation and production of a series of biblical videos and songs for Roma children. Previously, only four songs existed for Serbian Roma children. Pray that these videos and songs would introduce these children to the hope of the gospel.



JOSEPH

“Now the birth of Jesus took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’” (Matthew 1:18-21)

Although Joseph is not related by DNA to Jesus, he is the man that God chose to raise Jesus as an earthly father. Both Mary and Joseph were descendants of David, so in choosing both of them as Jesus’ earthly parents, God kept and fulfilled the promises that he had made to so many ancestors before him. Further, Joseph’s genealogy is focused on in Matthew’s gospel which makes it clear that Joseph is one of the final pieces of God’s plan to prepare the way for the Lord.

When Joseph found out that Mary was pregnant outside of marriage and apart from his involvement, his first plan was to quietly end their

betrothment in an attempt to not cause any shame to Mary. But when an angel came to him and assured him that this child was not a result of unfaithfulness on Mary’s part but was the Messiah, the Son of God, he had faith and trusted God’s plan. It was God’s will that Joseph would take on the role of being the earthly Father to the Son of God, and in Joseph and Mary, God’s promises to their ancestors before them were fulfilled.

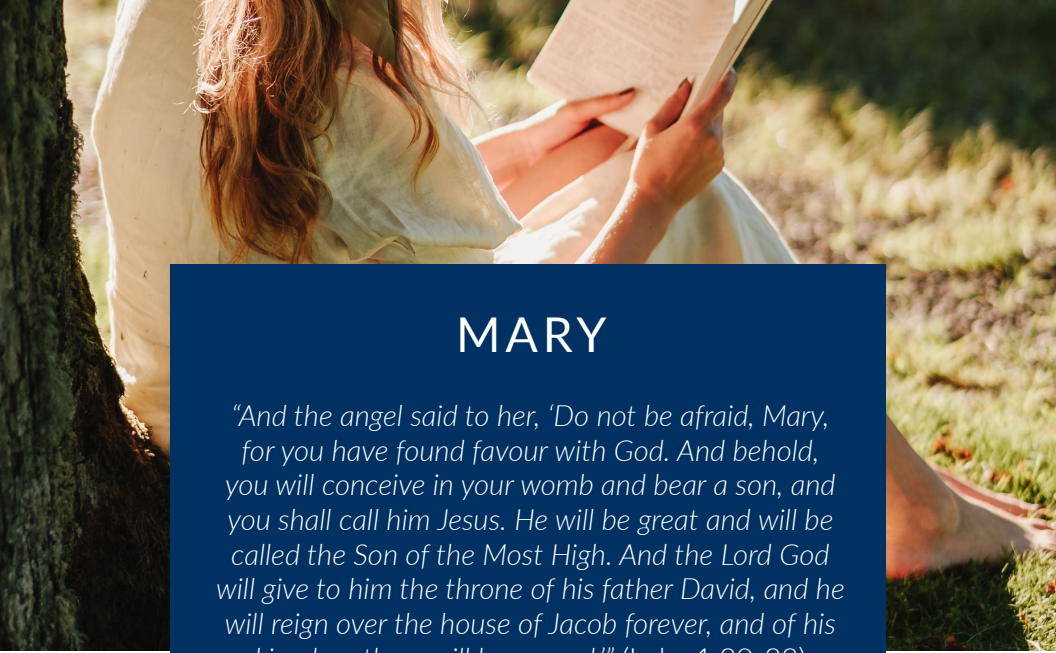
Let us marvel at the way that God brought about salvation for his people! Every step of the way, God has been faithful to us!

Training

Around the world, pastors and church leaders don’t have the same opportunities we have in Canada to grow in faith and leadership. By partnering with the Church in training, we build a stronger global Church, helping local churches grow in faith and reach their communities with the hope of Christ.

10. Pray for the many Chinese pastors and church leaders who attend training seminars, workshops, and other events in Canada and online. Pray that what they learn would strengthen their ministries and build up healthy churches.
11. Persian ministry conferences allow believers to gather safely for fellowship and Bible teaching. Pray that those needing spiritual encouragement will attend these conferences and will be blessed.
12. Pray that Leadership Essentials would help small group leaders across the Middle East, North Africa and the Philippines be better equipped to lead.
13. Pray for the post-production and marketing plans of CultureCross, a tool for the Canadian church to assist Christians in knowing how to share the gospel with people of other cultures.
14. Across the Middle East and North Africa, church leaders are being trained to start discipleship movements using DE. Pray that the leaders who are trained would effectively implement what they have learned in their ministries.
15. Praise God for providing online platforms Christians can use for training and fellowship, particularly in parts of the world where it may be unsafe to gather in person.
16. Pray for Jeanne, TWR Women of Hope coordinator in Mali, who frequently speaks at conferences and training events on topics such as evangelism and family relationships.





MARY

“And the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.’” (Luke 1:30-33)

We are nearing the date on which we celebrate the birth of our Saviour. We have seen in Scripture some of the many ways in which the Father prepared the way for the Son to come to our rescue. We have seen God’s faithfulness to Abraham, his grace to Rahab, his redemption and welcoming to Ruth, his establishing of King David, his orchestration of the family of Zechariah, Elizabeth and John, and now we come to Mary.

Mary did not seem to consider herself as a noteworthy figure the way that we see her now. She instead calls herself a servant of God, humble, awed, and amazed, and she praises

God for choosing to use her to fulfill the promise he made from the very beginning. The final pieces of God’s plan to send a Saviour were falling into place and God was once again using an unlikely person to accomplish his will.

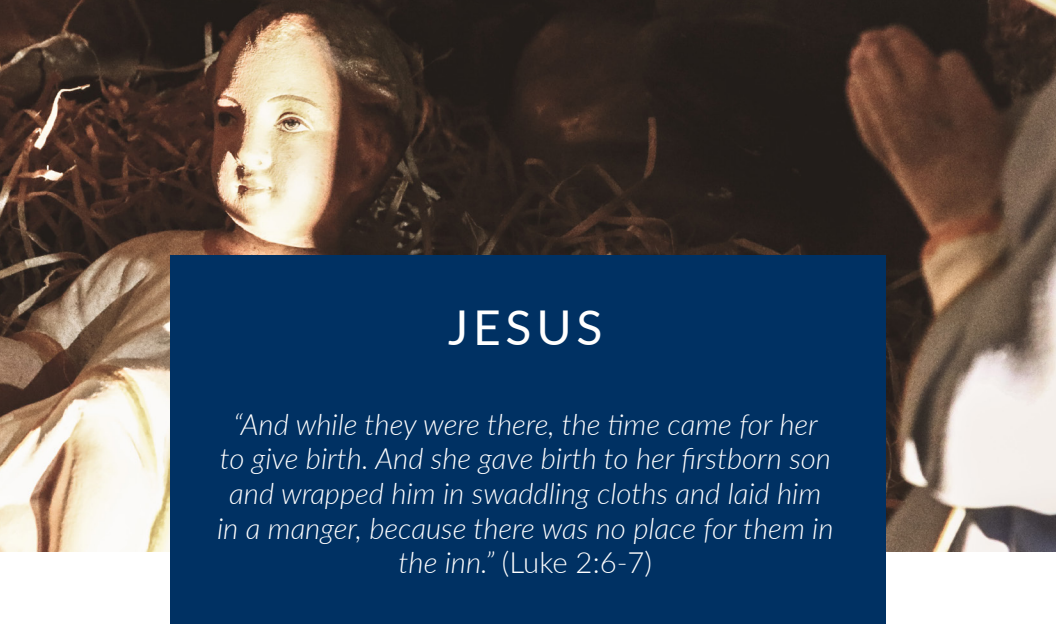
There was nothing in particular about Mary that made her special or earned her this role, but God chose her and she received with humility the role and the gift of carrying and raising our Messiah. Similarly, although there is nothing that we have done to earn it, as Christmas draws near, let us receive with humility the gift of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Media Players

Whether listening to content in a group on a media player or privately from an SD card on their phone, these devices provide biblical teaching directly into the hands of people in their heart language.

- 17. Recently, we sent 500 media players to Liberia to equip local pastors. Pray that the audio Bible, Thru the Bible sermons and Bible Stories Alive programs would be a blessing to those who listen.
- 18. Praise God for providing the technology required to share the hope of the gospel in discreet ways in areas of the world where it is unsafe to be a Christian.
- 19. Pray for Women of Hope messages on media players to bring the comfort of Christ, as well as healing and renewed relationships.
- 20. At DE conferences around the world, attendees often receive an SD card containing DE in their heart language. Pray they would take this resource and use it to share the gospel and grow in faith.
- 21. Pray for TWR Canada missionary Jeremy Mullin as he assembles media player and SD card orders for use around the world.
- 22. Pray that we would discern ministry and partnership opportunities for media players loaded in heart languages to land in the hands of those who need God’s Word most.
- 23. Pray for those who receive a media player in their heart language across Canada.





JESUS

“And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.” (Luke 2:6-7)

Here we are, at last, celebrating Christmas. Here we are, ready to celebrate the birth of our Saviour with the perspective of God’s faithfulness through every step and every piece of this process. God made a promise, and he kept it. God had a plan, and he fulfilled it. We had no hope, but now we have undying hope in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Just as God used many people to prepare the way for Jesus to come, Jesus came and prepared the way for us to be saved. No one in the line of Christ lived a perfect or sinless life and no one after Jesus’ life on earth has lived a perfect or sinless life. But that’s the whole point. If we had managed to live sinlessly, we would never have needed Jesus to come.

God’s plan and promise would have been insignificant and unnecessary.

But oh, how significant and necessary to us it is! We have sinned and we have failed, and we do need Jesus. More than anything else, we need Jesus and he has come to save us! He lived sinlessly. He died sacrificially. He rose to life again. He ascended to intercede for us.

God has kept his promise. He prepared a way for salvation and now he prepares a place in heaven for us! All glory be to our merciful, gracious, faithful God! As we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, let our eyes be open to God’s faithfulness to us in every generation.

Praise God!

As we end 2023 and look ahead to 2024, let us take some time to look back at the year and praise God for his faithfulness. God is good!

- 24. Thank God for our faithful financial and prayer supporters who partner with us to share the truth of the gospel with the world and disciple believers.
- 25. Merry Christmas! Today we celebrate the birth of God’s Son who he sent from heaven to earth. Praise God for the hope of salvation and his endless supply of goodness, grace and love.
- 26. Praise God for the completion of CultureCross recording. We’re so excited to see how God will use this resource to share hope with newcomers and our neighbours in Canada!
- 27. Praise God that Discipleship Essentials is having a great impact through our partners with more than 28,000 small groups using DE around the world!
- 28. Praise God for the many ways he protected the TWR teams in Ukraine, Russia and Belarus this year.
- 29. Praise God for those who have professed their faith in Jesus at Persian ministry conferences this year!
- 30. Praise God that we were able to resume ministry tours across Canada this year and meet with those who partner with us in speaking hope to the world.



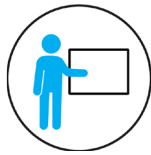


About Us:

Using media, we partner with churches around the world to share the message of salvation among the nations.



**Media
Content**



**Training
Believers**



**Digital
& Media
Technology**



**Missionaries
and
Mobilization**

Unless otherwise indicated, scripture quotations are from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

If you would like to receive this prayer guide by email, please contact our office or sign up online at www.twr.ca/signup

stay in touch



@twrcanada

TWR Canada
PO Box 25324
London, ON N6C 6B1

info@twr.ca
(888) 672-6510
www.twr.ca