

GO FORWARD!



*this Christmas
with Jesus*

Prayer and Testimony Ideas

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Eternal God,
In Jesus Christ your light shines in our darkness,
 Giving joy in our sorrow
 And presence in our loneliness.
Fill us with the mystery of your Word made flesh,
Until our hearts overflow with praise and joy,
For he is the beginning and the end of all that exists,
Living forevermore. Amen.

Voices United #53

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of stable, stars, and surprises,
 Of light and hope and new life:
Open our eyes and hearts to your presence in our world;
 Forgive our obsession with property and possessions;
 Forgive our compromises and narrowness of vision.
Open us to your grace,
That we might hear again the song of the angels,
 And respond with a song in our hearts,
 And in our lives. Amen.

Gordon Nodwell, alt. 1980

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SUGGESTED TIME OF PRAYER:

A time of prayer together could focus on the following:

Prayer for Journeying Mercies	Pray for God's blessing on people in the congregation who are travelling over the Christmas season.
Prayer for Guidance	Ask God to give guidance to people along life's journey. Christmas is a time when people reflect on their past, present, and future. Pray that God will continue to guide them on new paths of holiness and transformation.
Prayer for Refugees	Jesus and his family were refugees. He was born on a road-side stable, and immediately had to flee to another country (Egypt) to seek sanctuary. Pray for the millions of refugees and displaced people around the world who find themselves in similar situations.
Prayer for Salvation	At the end of their long journey, Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, and the magi, all found the Christ Child. Pray that this Advent/Christmas season will be a time when men and women begin a similar journey and discover Jesus as the source of salvation.

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Prayer for the Faithful	Pray for the faithful who have served God and his church for years. Pray that God will raise up a new generation of servants who are willing to fearlessly bear the name of Christ.
Prayer for Families	At the center of the Christmas story is a family trying to stay together against all odds. Pray for the families in and connected with your congregation that God will sustain them.
Prayer for the Whole World Mobilizing	In just a few days the Whole World Mobilizing Campaign will launch. Pray that Salvationists worldwide will make it a priority to intentionally witness to others and share the gospel in word and deed.

SUGGESTED TIME OF TESTIMONIES:

Times of Testimony may include:

A mature believer's personal witness to God's faithfulness over the years

A recent convert sharing the new journey he/she has been on with God