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gift to us. *He had to be made like His brethren in all things ... Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is the devil (2:14, 17).*

Moses was God's faithful servant (3:5). Amid a flurry of miracles, he gave Israel God's law, which they broke. *Therefore I was angry with that generation ... I swore in My wrath, "They shall not enter my rest" (3:10-11).* But Jesus Christ is our high priest. Through Him, *we draw near with confidence to the throne of grace that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need (4:15-16).*

The Old Testament priests were an exclusive club. Their sacrifices covered the sin of God's chosen people. But only for a time. Priests die and animal sacrifices only cover past sin. But Christ is a priest of a different kind—the kind who lives and forgives forever. *He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them (7:25).*

Christ's blood cleanses us from sin (9:14, 28). He is the hope of the faithful, our model to follow, and power to obey (12:1-3). The babe that cried in a manger in Bethlehem is the God who shook the mountain at Sinai (12:18-21). And when God gives a gift, He never takes it back, or in Christ's words, *I will never leave you, nor will I ever forsake you (13:5).*

As you read the book of Hebrews this Christmas season, think of it as unwrapping God's gift. Rejoice in the eternal blessing He brings. Delight in the hope He purchased. But above all, fall in love with the Giver. All giving begins and ends with Him.

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#### Prayer for ...

- **Northpoint:** Pray to the Lord of the Harvest to send us into our portion of His world to win souls for Christ.
- **Local Outreach:** Christmas in Corona, brining Christmas and Christ to those in need
- **Missions:** Church growth and support in Tuba City, Arizona

#### Need to pray with someone?

It is our privilege to pray for you personally. Share your prayer requests

- By email at [prayer@northpointcorona.org](mailto:prayer@northpointcorona.org)
- By phone, at 951.734.1335
- On a Response Card in the pew during the worship service

Prayer Team members are available after every worship service.



# prayer *life!*

## Bible Reading Plan and Prayer Guide

### (Year ONE) December 2021

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*In these last days, God has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high. —Hebrews 1:2-3*

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#### God's Best Gift

Jim Elliot's words still ring true: "God gives the best gifts, when we leave the choice to Him." So often, our needs and longings dominate our prayers, and we lose sight of God's sovereign plan and His gifts of eternal value. If ever there's a time to reflect on the excellence of God's gifts, it's Christmas. And His most excellent gift is the Child Christ.

There's an old habit. Devaluing Christ and insisting there must be more to God's gift. This old habit plagued the Hebrew believers of the first century, as it does many today. Fear of being excluded from Jewish worship tempted them to mix law with grace and trust human effort instead of God's provision. But rejecting God's gift means falling from grace and throwing away the only chance for salvation.

An unknown author, some say Paul but no one knows for sure, wrote these Hebrew saints to convince them to cling to Christ alone. The portrait of Christ he gives reveals how great God's greatest gift truly is.

Even angels can't compare to Christ our Savior. Angels are mere servants, doing God's bidding (1:14). But God's Son reigns. *Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of His kingdom (1:8).* As awesome as an angel is, Christ's glory is categorically greater.

No human is His equal. Yes, our Lord is human. He was even mortal, able to die. But His humanity is more than packaging. Incarnation is essential to the way God crafted His

# Reading and Prayer Schedule (Year ONE)

December 2021

<b>Sunday:</b> Church & Ministry	<b>Monday:</b> Home & Family	<b>Tuesday:</b> School or Job	<b>Wednesday:</b> Neighbors & Community	<b>Thursday:</b> Nation	<b>Friday:</b> World & Kingdom	<b>Saturday:</b> Praise for God's Blessings
<p><i>The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by his love; He will exult over you with loud singing.</i></p> <p><i>Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!</i> –Zephaniah 3:17; 2nd Corinthians 9:15</p>			<p><b>1) Read:</b> Hebrews 4 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to burden our hearts to reach the lost in our community, just as He reached out to us by sending Jesus.</p>	<p><b>2) Read:</b> Hebrews 5 <i>Pray for ...</i> Confess our sin as a nation that has rejected God's rule over us (Luke 19:14). Ask God to exalt Christ this Christmas.</p>	<p><b>3) Read:</b> Hebrews 6 <i>Pray for ...</i> The liberation of North Korea &amp; the conversion of its people to Christ. Pray for protection &amp; strength for the persecuted Church.</p>	<p><b>4) Read:</b> Hebrews 7 <i>Give God Praise ...</i> For the abundance we enjoy in America. Rejoice in God's provision of all the good in your life.</p>
<p><b>5) Read:</b> Hebrews 8 <i>Pray for ...</i> Nick Juarez, Pastoral intern: Ask God to equip him for service and use him to lead others to follow Christ.</p>	<p><b>6) Read:</b> Hebrews 9 <i>Pray for ...</i> Your siblings. Ask God to keep them in His care and lead them in His will.</p>	<p><b>7) Read:</b> Hebrews 10 <i>Pray for ...</i> The integrity and success of your school or place of work.</p>	<p><b>8) Read:</b> Hebrews 11 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to accomplish His purposes through our city government. Pray that those who know Christ will share and show His love to others.</p>	<p><b>9) Read:</b> Hebrews 12 <i>Pray for ...</i> Revival in the Church in the United States, driven by God's love, guided by His Word, empowered by prayer, and expressed through evangelism.</p>	<p><b>10) Read:</b> Hebrews 13 <i>Pray for ...</i> The triumph of the Gospel in the hearts of people throughout Latin America, bringing peace to troubled regions.</p>	<p><b>11) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 1 <i>Praise God for ...</i> The Light that shines in the darkness. Rejoice that the darkness cannot ever overcome it. –John 1:5</p>
<p><b>12) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 2 <i>Pray for ...</i> Corie Saunders, Administrator &amp; Finance: Ask God to use her to enable our church to honor Christ with our resources.</p>	<p><b>13) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 3 <i>Pray for ...</i> Your aunts and uncles. Ask God to draw them to Himself and provide all they need.</p>	<p><b>14) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 4 <i>Pray for ...</i> The movement of God's Spirit in the lives of those you work with, so they will be filled with joy this Christmas.</p>	<p><b>15) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 5 <i>Pray for ...</i> The incarnate and resurrected Christ to reveal Himself to your neighbors through you.</p>	<p><b>16) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 6 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to turn America's heart to seek Jesus, like the Magi of old, to obey His Word, and honor His will.</p>	<p><b>17) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 7 <i>Pray for ...</i> Jesus Christ to be exalted to first place in all denominations of the Church worldwide. May we worship Him as did the shepherds &amp; wise men.</p>	<p><b>18) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 8 <i>Praise God for ...</i> His perfect and eternal gift. Rejoice in "God with us" and the "grace upon grace" we receive in Jesus.</p>
<p><b>19) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 9 <i>Pray for ...</i> Sam Nguyen, Pastoral Intern Pray for the grace of the Child Christ to flow from him as he spreads the truth of God's Word.</p>	<p><b>20) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 10 <i>Pray for ...</i> Ask the Lord to create a deep, Christ-exalting bond between you &amp; your family that displays God's character in your lives.</p>	<p><b>21) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 11 <i>Pray for ...</i> The joy of Christ to flow through you to everyone around you, so they come to know Him and His love.</p>	<p><b>22) Read:</b> Ecclesiastes 12 <i>Pray for ...</i> The growing Muslim population in our area. Ask God to reveal the risen Christ and His love to them through us, His people.</p>	<p><b>23) Read:</b> Proverbs 1 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to revive the Church in the New Year, so that His Church will grow, as hearts that oppose Christ come to bow before Him and rejoice in His reign.</p>	<p><b>24) Read:</b> Proverbs 2 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to establish His rule in our country, by filling the Church with His Spirit, &amp; giving us strong Godly leaders, who identify first with Jesus Christ.</p>	<p><b>25) Read:</b> Proverbs 3 <i>Return Thanks for ...</i> God's indescribable gift. Every good &amp; perfect gift comes through Christ.</p>
<p><b>26) Read:</b> Proverbs 4 <i>Pray for ...</i> Dani Tiqui, Ministry Assistant, Children, to build Christian truth into the lives of the children of Northpoint.</p>	<p><b>27) Read:</b> Proverbs 5 <i>Pray for ...</i> Your family in Christ. Ask God to spread the love of Christ throughout your circle of Christian friends, so you can share it with others.</p>	<p><b>28) Read:</b> Proverbs 6 <i>Pray for ...</i> The peace of God that passes all understanding to fill you to overflowing, so Christ shines through you to others.</p>	<p><b>29) Read:</b> Proverbs 7 <i>Pray for ...</i> The truth of Christmas to shine in the churches of Corona throughout the entire year.</p>	<p><b>30) Read:</b> Proverbs 8 <i>Pray that ...</i> The revival God brings will exalt Christ above all, reach deep into individual hearts, extend around the world, &amp; last for years to come.</p>	<p><b>31) Read:</b> Proverbs 9 <i>Pray for ...</i> Commit the New Year into the Lord's hands, trusting His care for you and guide during the coming year.</p>	