



A CHRISTMAS JOURNEY FROM DISCONNECTION TO RECONNECTION

Family Christmas Devotional
by
TEACHER NNEKA



Introduction

Introduction

Christmas is more than gifts, decorations, and carols. It's the story of God's love for us, told through the humble birth of Jesus in a manger. This devotional will guide your family through the "3 Big D Words" and the "3 Big R Words" that remind us of why Jesus came. Together, we'll rediscover the mystery and beauty of the manger while building new family traditions that keep Christ at the center of Christmas.

HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL

- Duration: 12 lessons, best spread across December or used over 2 weeks.
- Structure: Each lesson includes:
 - Bible Reading
 - Reflection
 - Family Activity or Challenge
 - Prayer
- Bonus: A 25-day “Table Manger Bible Study Challenge” and a reflection on the beauty of the manger.



01

Disconnection

Day 1: Disconnection

Bible Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:18

"I also said to myself, 'As for humans, God tests them so that they may see that they are like the animals.'"

Reflection

In the beginning, God made humans in His image—full of His wisdom, character, and spirit. But when Adam sinned, we became disconnected from God. Sin separated us from His Spirit, and without His life in us, we became like animals.

This is why Jesus was born in a stable. His birth reminds us of our fallen state and our need to reconnect with God.

Family Activity

- Draw a picture of a stable and animals. Write the word *DISCONNECTION* above it to remind us of what happens when we are separated from God.

Prayer

Dear God, we are sorry for our sins that have separated us from You. Thank You for sending Jesus to reconnect us to You. Help us to stay close to You always. Amen.



02

Devaluation

Day 2: Devaluation

Bible Reading: Psalm 8:4-5

“What is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? You have made them a little lower than the angels...”

Reflection

When we were disconnected from God, we lost our value. Without His wisdom, power, and love, humans became devalued, behaving like animals. But God's love for us never changed. That's why He sent Jesus—to restore our value and make us His children again.

Family Activity

- Write a list of the qualities God gave humans in the beginning (e.g., love, wisdom, kindness). Discuss how Jesus restores these qualities in us.

Prayer

Lord, thank You for loving us even when we were far from You. Thank You for sending Jesus to show us how valuable we are to You. Amen.



03

Destitution

Day 3: Destitution

Bible Reading: Romans 3:23

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Reflection

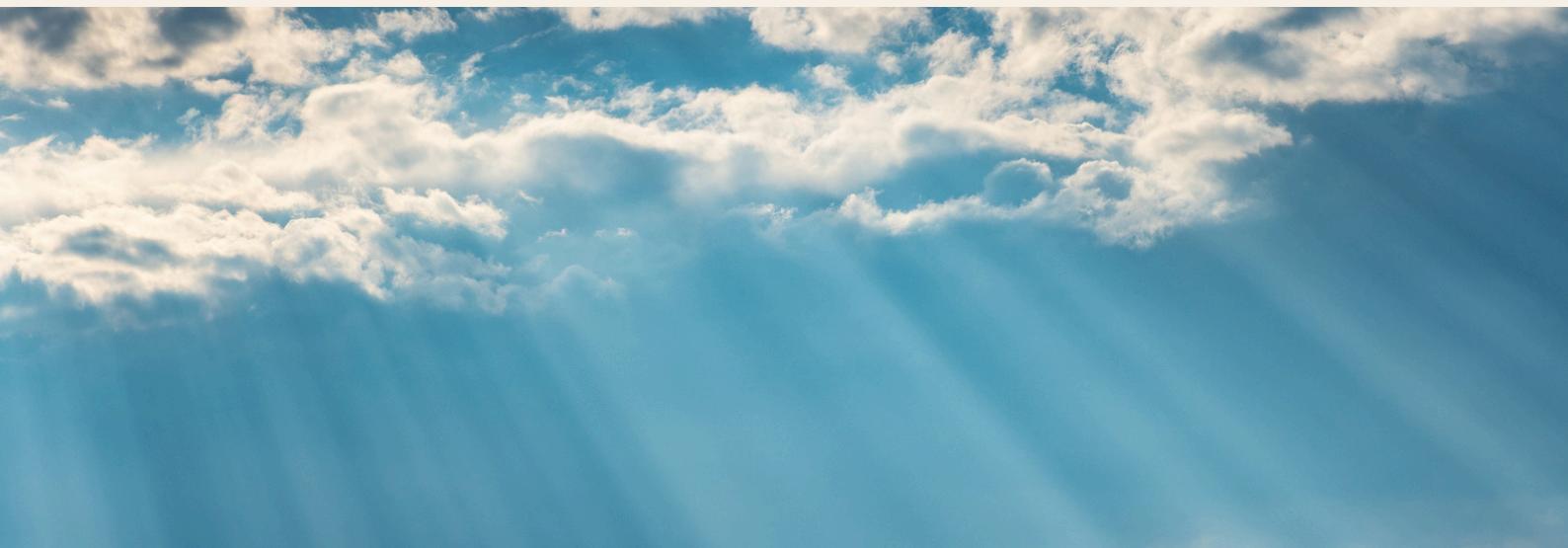
When sin disconnected us from God, we became spiritual orphans—homeless and destitute. We could no longer go to heaven, our true home, when we died. But God loved us too much to leave us in this state. On Christmas morning, His plan to bring us back home began.

Family Activity

- Build or draw a paper house and write *HEAVEN* on it. Discuss how Jesus makes it possible for us to go back home to God.

Prayer

Father, thank You for sending Jesus to rescue us from spiritual destitution. We look forward to being with You in heaven. Amen.



04

Restoration

Day 4: Restoration

Bible Reading: John 3:16

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

Reflection

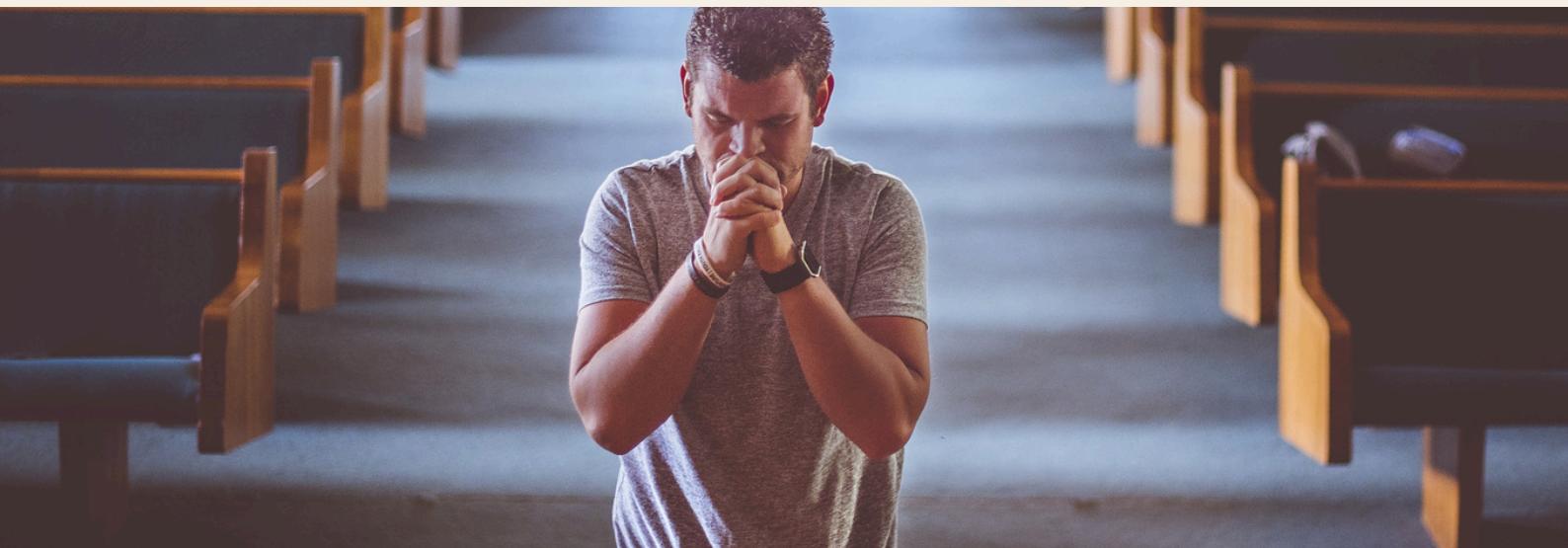
Jesus came to restore us—to bring us back to our original state and reconnect us to God. He washed away our sins with His blood and gave us Himself as the Holy Spirit to live inside us. Now, we are no longer like animals but are children of God because Jesus the son of God now lives inside of us.

Family Activity

- Make a “Restoration Chart” with two columns: *Before Jesus* and *After Jesus*. Write down how Jesus changes our lives.

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for restoring us and giving us eternal life. Help us to live as Your children every day. Amen.



05

Reconnection

Day 5: Reconnection

Bible Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”

Reflection

Jesus didn't just come to earth; He came to live in our hearts so that we can become new people with new hearts and life . When we accept Him, we are reconnected to God as we have become new people, now recreated back in God's image. The Holy Spirit works in us, helping us live in God's wisdom and love.

Family Activity

Say the sinners prayer and give your life to Jesus. Ask him to come into your life and be your Lord and saviour.

- Create a “Spiritual Birth Certificate” for each family member. Write the date they accepted Jesus as a reminder of their new life.

Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite You to come into my heart and life. From today I will You as my Lord and Savior. Amen



06

Dominion

Day 6: Dominion

Bible Reading: Romans 6:14

“For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.”

Reflection

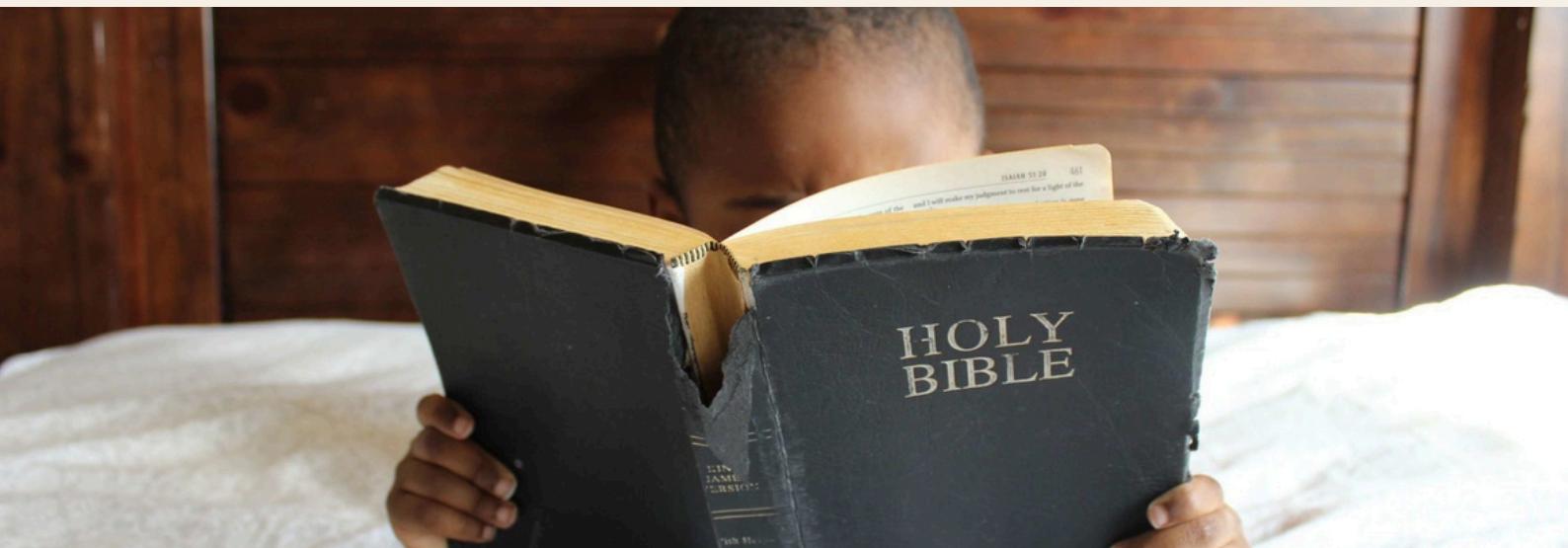
With Jesus living inside us, we have power over sin and bad habits. But this doesn't happen automatically—we must feed on Him daily by reading the Bible. Jesus was laid in a manger to remind us to feed on Him, not on “hay” like animals.

Family Activity

- Decorate a manger and write “Feed on Jesus” on it. Discuss how daily Bible reading helps us grow and become like God.

Prayer

Lord, help us to feed on Your Word every day so we can live in Your wisdom and power. Amen.



07

Family Tradition

**Day 7 : Christmas Family Tradition: Table Manger
Bible Study Challenge**

Bible reading : Mathew 4:4

"It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

The Table Manger 25-day Christmas Bible Study Challenge is a meaningful way to start a daily Bible reading habit in your home, and further help make your Christmas season Christ-centered and establish a lasting family tradition. Here's how to start the tradition and keep your family focused on the true spirit of Christmas:

1. Prepare the Table Manger

On December 1st, bring out your Table Manger. Cut 25 pieces of tinsel or strips of fabric (representing hay) and place them in the manger. Then, place the figure of the baby Jesus in the center. Find a prominent spot for the manger where everyone can see it—perhaps in the living room or by the Christmas tree.



07

Family Tradition continued

2. Daily Bible Reading

Each day, every family member should spend time reading the Bible. Once everyone has completed their reading, remove one piece of tinsel from the manger. If anyone misses a day of Bible reading, no hay should be removed, which encourages consistency in the daily reading habit.

3. Build Anticipation for Christmas Day

Continue this routine every day leading up to Christmas. By Christmas morning, the manger should be empty, with only the baby Jesus remaining in the center, symbolizing the culmination of the Advent season.

4. Celebrate Together

Once the manger is empty on Christmas Day, you can add a small reward to the manger, like a bag of chocolates, for the family to enjoy together. This will make the tradition feel extra special and provide a fun, celebratory moment after 25 days of Bible study and reflection.

5. Repeat the Tradition

After Christmas, carefully pack up your Table Manger and store it away to begin the tradition again next year. This practice helps reinforce the importance of Christ's birth and encourages your family to continue making Bible study a priority.

By following the Table Manger Bible Study Challenge, you'll create a beautiful family tradition that brings everyone together around the true meaning of Christmas, while also fostering a habit of daily Bible reading throughout the Advent season.



08

Wise Men

Day 8: How to Stay Wise – Lessons from the Wise Men

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

The wise men were rich, smart, and busy, yet they prioritized searching for Jesus. They understood that no matter how accomplished we become, the pursuit of Christ is what truly makes us wise. In the same way, we must make time for Him amidst our busy lives.

Lesson:

How do we search for Jesus?

- We search for Him through the Bible. As you read and study Scripture daily, you are seeking to know Him more deeply. With each day of seeking, you become wiser, more insightful, and closer to Him.
- **Action Step:** Set aside time each day to read the Bible and pray. Even if your day is filled with activities, make space for God. In doing so, you'll discover the wisdom that only comes from knowing Him.



09

The Star

Day 9: The Star at Christmas – Courage and Protection

Scripture: Matthew 2:9-11

The star that led the wise men to Jesus wasn't just a celestial sign; it was a symbol of God's guidance.

Just as the star attracted great men and even hostile figures like King Herod, your "star" – the unique gifts and purpose God has placed in you – will also attract both admirers and adversaries.

Lesson:

- Know that God will protect you. Just as He protected Jesus from Herod, He will shield you from harm.
- **Action Step:** Embrace the gifts God has given you and know that He will guide and protect you. Don't be discouraged by those who may try to hinder your purpose. Trust that God has a plan for you.



10

Inn and Field

Day 10: The Inn and the Field – Creating Quiet Space for God

Scripture: Luke 2:8-20

Have you ever wondered why the angels appeared to the shepherds and not to the people in the busy inn?

The inn was filled with noise, and the people there couldn't hear the angelic message. But the shepherds, who were in the quiet of the field, were able to listen and receive the message.

Lesson:

- We need quiet time to hear from God. When life is too noisy, it's hard to hear His voice.
- **Action Step:** Create a "field" in your home—a quiet space where you can pray, read the Bible, and meditate. Use this time to hear from God and invite Him to speak into your life.



11

HOW God speaks

Day 11: The Wise Men and the Shepherds – God Speaks to Us in Familiar Ways

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12 & Luke 2:8-20

God revealed Jesus to the wise men through the star, but He spoke to the shepherds through angels. The wise men were accustomed to observing the stars, while the shepherds were familiar with angelic visitations. God meets us where we are and uses the things we know to communicate with us.

Lesson:

- God speaks to us through the everyday things we are most familiar with. He uses the things we encounter in our daily lives to draw us closer to Him.
- **Action Step:** Pay attention to how God speaks to you. Whether it's through nature, people, or even a quiet moment, recognize that He is speaking and be open to His messages.



12

The Story

Day 12 : CONCLUSION : THE CHRISTMAS STORY : Luke Chspter 2

Christmas is more than gifts, decorations, and carols. It's the story of God's love for us, and the story of Salvation told through the humble birth of Jesus laid in a manger.

The Christmas story, with all its layers, offers wisdom not just for the Christmas season but for daily living. From the visit of the wise men to the humble birth of Jesus, we can learn how to reconnect back to God, how to be restored to the nature and eternal life that God wants for us, how to seek Him, how to be brave, how to quiet our hearts, and how God speaks to us.

This journey through the Christmas story reminds us that Jesus came into a busy, noisy world, but those who took the time to seek Him—whether through stars, angels, or quiet fields—found Him. In the same way, if we make space for Him in our lives, we will find wisdom, guidance, and protection.

We encourage you to make this a daily practice as a family—reading, reflecting, and applying these lessons to your everyday lives. By doing so, you will not only deepen your relationship with Christ but also become a beacon of His light in the world around you.

Prayer: Lord, we thank You for the gift of Jesus, for the wisdom, guidance, and protection You provide. Help us to make time for You each day, to listen for Your voice, and to follow the example of the wise men and the shepherds. May we always seek You, find You, and grow in our relationship with You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

This devotional was written to help families reflect on the deeper lessons of Christmas and how they apply to everyday life. It is designed to be a resource for daily spiritual growth and connection with God.

About the Author

Teacher Nneka is a passionate Bible teacher with a unique gift for bringing the stories of Scripture to life. Through engaging illustrations and creative storytelling, she helps make the timeless truths of the Bible accessible and relatable, especially for children and teens.

As the founder of a children's Bible school in Lekki, Lagos, Nigeria, Teacher Nneka has dedicated herself to nurturing young hearts in the knowledge of God's Word. She is the author of several books, including *The Mystery and the Beauty of the Manger*, a Christmas devotional that explores the profound significance of Christ's birth.

With her warm, engaging teaching style, Teacher Nneka continues to inspire both children and adults, guiding them into a deeper understanding of the Bible's messages of love, hope, and redemption.

**SEE SAMPLES OF
DECORATED
MANGER TO HELP
YOU DECORATE
YOUR MANGER**























Teacher Nneka is a Bible Teacher
that loves to tell the Bible stories
through real life visuals and practical applications