



During the journey of Advent we have suggested ways to help young people connect with their peers as they look to share the life giving message of Jesus Christ.



### **Did You Know?**

According to the BBC news, Tearfund surveyed 1,000 adults and found that: - 1 in 6 prays daily - 1 in 4 prayed at least once a week. - 40% of adults pray and believe that prayer changes lives. - After praying, 38% reported feeling peaceful and content - 57% said it changed what happened in their lives.

Join us as we believers that all will know God and His peace this advent.



### **1. Reaching friends at Advent**

We want to encourage you to share the story of advent and the good news of Jesus with your friends this advent. Write down the names of 3 friends who don't identify themselves as Christians that you would like to share the excitement of advent with, and spend some time praying that their hearts and minds will be open to the message of Jesus this Christmas. We will be encouraging you to share Jesus with them in various ways over the coming days and weeks, and we would love to hear your stories as you tell them to good news. We will be praying for you over this time, that you will have the confidence to talk to your friends and that they will be receptive to what you have to say





## 2. Share with your friends

A couple of days ago we asked you to think of 3 friends you wanted to share the advent story with this Christmas. Today, why don't you spend a few minutes sharing with them what you've read in The King is Coming today, and show them how to access this Advent devotion in there app store, so that they can get involved too?

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## 3. Get Inviting!

Most churches have something fun going on over advent, whether it's a Carol service, Nativity play or Christmas Fair. Today, we want to challenge you to invite the 3 friends you are praying for to an event your church or small group may be holding this Christmas. This is a way to get them to experience church and Christians in a fun and positive way, and they will have the opportunity to hear what the Christmas story is all about.

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## 4. Pray for your friends

Spend some time today praying for the friends you have invited to your church events. Pray for their availability and willingness to come to the event, and that they will experience the wonder of God and discover the true meaning of Christmas whilst they are there.

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## 5. Meet with God

Spend some time with God today, listening to what's on His heart for the 3 friends you are praying for. Draw or write down what comes to mind, be it a picture, or a word or a song, and pray for the boldness to share these messages from God with your friends. If you are unsure about sharing them with your friends, that's fine. We would encourage you to simply tell them that you are praying for them instead.



## 6. Christmas struggles

Write the names of your 3 friends down on a piece of paper. Under each of their names, write down 2 things that you know they may be struggling with this Christmas and need rescuing from. It may be that there will be challenges with their family over Christmas, the first Christmas without a loved one, or some other personal challenge. Take some time to pray for them, inviting the Holy Spirit to help them with these issues, and that they may know that His love and presence is always there. If you can't think of any specific items for prayer, pray that their eyes will be opened to the fact that Jesus is the saviour of their lives.

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## 7. Pray for hearts to be opened

Today, pray for not only the 3 friends you have chosen, but all your friends who don't know Jesus yet. Pray that their hearts will be opened and softened to the wonders of the advent story, the gift that Jesus is to the world, and that they too are adopted into God's family.

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## 8. Pay it forward

Today's devotion looks at making a difference in the world but paying it forward. How can you pay it forward this Christmas? There are loads of ways you can pay it forward and show people the love of Jesus this Christmas; you could donate food to a homeless shelter or toys to a children's charity, you could even do something as simple as help your parents do the washing up over Christmas, or tidy up the wrapping paper from all the lovely presents you receive! You could also look to give a % of your time towards befriending other in need over the Christmas holidays. If you have any fun and creative ideas on how you could pay the love of Jesus forward, we would love to hear them



### **9. Light the way**

Why not ask your 3 friends what they thought of the event you invited them to? If they weren't able to attend, share with them your thoughts on it, and 1 or 2 things that you enjoyed. If it hasn't happened yet, consider inviting them out for a coffee afterwards to discuss what they thought about it. If your church has a Christmas day service, this may also be a great opportunity to invite them to that too! We would love to hear what your friends had to say about the events you took them to and celebrate with you, so why not get in touch?

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### **10. Looking to the future**

On this last day before Christmas, why not spend some time thinking about the new year and new school term (although we know you probably don't want to think about school right now!). Pray that in this new term, God will give you the opportunity to reconnect with the 3 people you have been praying for and interacting with over advent, and that you will continue to have opportunities to connect them with your local church or small groups.

Why not take 10 min now to text, FB or Whatsapp them to arrange a meet up.

Today is the day we have been waiting for! Today, we get to unwrap our presents, eat far too much food and enjoy spending time with our loved ones. But let's not forget the true reason for Christmas- that Jesus came to save us. Let's be thankful today that God loves us so much that He would give us such an amazing gift. We pray that you will have a wonderfully blessed day today, and that throughout all of the joy and laughter, you won't forget to appreciate the amazing gift of Jesus. We wish you a very Merry Christmas, and pray that God will keep you and guide you in along the right path this coming year.



# MISSIONAL GENERATION

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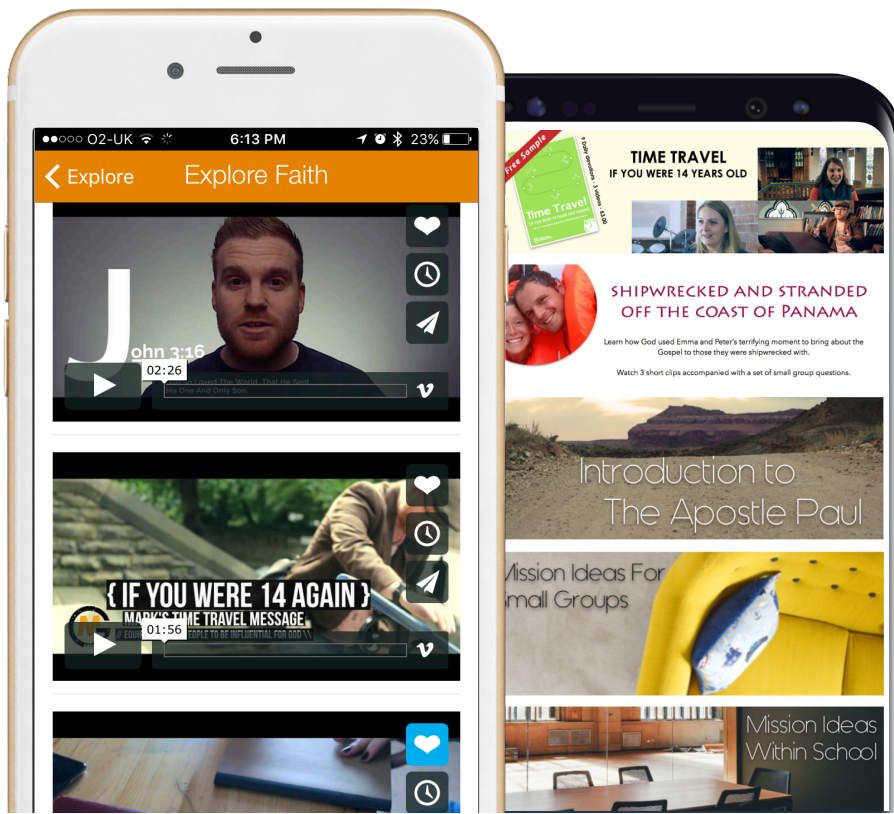
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