

A Four-Week Workplace Devotional

week 1

THE ADVENT OF HOPE



Theme: Learning to actively wait in our work

Primary Texts: Jeremiah 33:14–16; Luke 21:25–36; 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

Workplace Reflection

Advent is a season of preparation. We spend the four weeks before Christmas readying our hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus and to anticipate his future return to establish his kingdom.

Advent begins with waiting and longing. In Jesus' words from Luke 21, we hear the call to "stand up and lift your heads." Hope is not passive; it is active and attentive. At work, hope looks like resisting the anxious pace around us and laboring with expectation that God is already at work in hidden ways. Hope reframes workplace pressure: we don't carry the future alone.

Advent hope is more than an optimistic feeling tied to the anticipation of a positive outcome. Rather, it is anchored in presence and the immediate experience of being met, known, and held in communion by God.

Daily Prompts to Ponder and Process:

Monday — Notice Your Longings

- Ask: What do I hope God will make right in my work? Write one sentence naming that longing.

Tuesday — Slow Your Pace by 5%

- Choose one meeting or task to enter 5% slower by arriving early, being silent before speaking, or pausing before sending.

Wednesday — Practice "Advent Eyes"

- Notice one moment today where God is already present (a conversation, a solution, a person's resilience).

Thursday — Encourage Someone's Future

- Offer a genuine word of encouragement that names someone's potential or growth. Hope multiplies when spoken.

Friday — Release Control

- Pray: *Lord, the future of my work does not rest on me alone.* Surrender one anxiety about next year.

Prayer for the Week

"Christ, our Hope, turn my eyes toward You. Awaken me to Your presence in my work. Teach me to wait with courage, to lead with calm, and to trust that what You promise, You will fulfill."

week 2

THE ADVENT OF PEACE



Theme: Making straight paths in a conflicted workplace

Primary Texts: Malachi 3:1–4; Philippians 1:3–11; Luke 3:1–6

Workplace Reflection

John the Baptist announces a God who prepares the way by leveling what is crooked. In work, “making a straight path” means clarifying expectations, reducing unnecessary friction, and creating conditions for others to flourish. The Bible calls this “shalom.” Peace is not just the absence of conflict but completeness, wholeness in all things; relationships are in harmony, there is safety and security between nations without violence, inner and outer worlds are aligned.

Our work is the primary way that we collaborate with God to bring flourishing to the world. Regardless of your industry or your role, your work not only matters, but is critical in extending shalom.

Daily Prompts to Ponder and Process:

Monday — Identify a Crooked Path

- Where is the confusion, tension, or complexity at work? Note one place needing straightening.

Tuesday — Take One Step Toward Clarity

- Send a clarifying email, ask a question you’ve avoided, or align expectations with a teammate.

Wednesday — Midweek Confession

- Quietly confess where your own habits contribute to workplace dis-ease (hurry, tone, avoidance). Receive God’s mercy.

Thursday — Give the Gift of Presence

- Practice being fully present in your meetings, conversations, and tasks—phones down, attention up, listening with patience.

Friday — Bless Your Place of Work

- Walk through your office or mentally through your inbox, praying: *Lord, make straight the path here. Bring peace.*

Prayer for the Week

“Preparing God, level what is crooked in my work. Straighten my priorities. Purify my motives. Make me an instrument of Your peace wherever You’ve placed me.”

week 3

THE ADVENT OF JOY



Theme: Joy as strength for vocation

Primary Texts: Zephaniah 3:14–20; Philippians 4:4–7; Luke 3:7–18

Workplace Reflection

This Sunday is Gaudete—Rejoice! But John the Baptist’s message is blunt: real joy grows from integrity. Joy is not shallow cheerfulness; it is the deep strength that comes from living aligned lives. In work, joy emerges when our outer contributions match our inner calling.

Joy remains in difficulty and even suffering, so when things get challenging this week, lean further into the call to rejoice.

Daily Prompts to Ponder and Process:

Monday — Name Your Joys at Work

- Write three things at work that genuinely give you life or energy.

Tuesday — Joy Through Generosity

- Practice vocational generosity: share knowledge, remove a barrier, or help someone shine.

Wednesday — Fast from Complaining

- For one day, refrain from complaining about work (internally and verbally). And don’t just stop complaining: replace grumbling with gratitude.

Thursday — Align One Task to Purpose

- Choose a mundane task and connect it to the greater good: service, justice, beauty, order, stewardship.

Friday — Receive Joy from God

- Sit for 5 minutes. Breathe deeply. Pray: *Lord, rejoice over me with singing. Let God’s delight be your strength.*

Prayer for the Week

“God of Joy, strengthen me with delight that flows from You. Align my work with Your purposes. Make my life a song of joy even in pressure, uncertainty, and challenge.”

week 4

THE ADVENT OF LOVE



Theme: Love that becomes embodied in our work

Primary Texts: Micah 5:2–5a; Hebrews 10:5–10; Luke 1:39–55

Workplace Reflection

Mary's Magnificat proclaims a God who lifts the lowly and fills the hungry. Love becomes concrete: visiting Elizabeth, carrying Christ into real lives, embodying God's heart. At work, Advent love looks like honoring dignity, slowing down enough to notice people, and using power to bless, not burden. As Christians, we live and work from a love story.

Love is our starting point. God, who is love, loves us. You were created from love, with love, and for love. Love is our commission. We are to love God and our neighbor (which includes everyone we work with, work for, and work on behalf of). Love is our evidence that we are Christ's disciples. Love must not be relegated to church or home. For the Christian leader, love belongs at work.

Daily Prompts to Ponder and Process:

Monday — Honor Someone's Dignity

- Speak to someone who is often overlooked (cleaning staff, new hire, contractor). Use their name, be curious, and ask them a couple of questions.

Tuesday — Practice "Magnificat Leadership"

- Ask the Holy Spirit: *How can I use my role to lift someone else today?* Act on one opportunity to bless or empower.

Wednesday — A Small Act of Hidden Kindness

- Do something good for someone without them knowing—encouragement, support, generosity.

Thursday — Consciously Carry Christ into Work

- Before entering your workplace (or logging on), pray: *Lord, let me bring Your presence into every meeting and decision.*

Friday — Examine Your Love

- Reflect: *Where did I embody God's love this week? Where did I withhold it?* Offer both to God.

Prayer for the Week

"Incarnate Lord, be born in my work. Let Your love take on flesh through my words, leadership, and presence. Make me a bearer of Christ to every place You send me."