

# 5-Day Devotional: The Mighty God Among Us

## Day 1: Finding Refuge in the Mighty God

Reading: Isaiah 53:6; Matthew 11:28-30

Devotional: We are all sheep who have gone astray, wandering in our own directions, lost in the wilderness of our choices. Yet the beautiful truth of Christmas is that God intervened through His Son. Christ doesn't call the perfect or the prepared—He calls the weary and heavy-laden. Today, reflect on areas where you've been trying to carry burdens meant for God's shoulders. His yoke is easy and His burden is light, not because He removes all difficulty, but because He carries it with you. Are you running to temporary refuges—success, relationships, comfort—or to the eternal refuge found only in Christ? This Advent season, practice daily surrender. When anxiety rises, consciously choose to "come to Him" rather than striving in your own strength. Christ is not a temporary shelter until life improves; He is your permanent dwelling place.

## Day 2: Surrendering to Divine Authority

Reading: Philippians 2:5-11; John 5:26-27

Devotional: Authority often leaves a bitter taste because we've experienced its abuse. But Christ redefines authority through humility. Though He possessed all power, He emptied Himself, becoming a servant, obedient even to death on a cross. This is the attitude we're called to embrace. Consider the authority God has given you—over your choices, your words, your influence in others' lives. Are you wielding it like Christ, with humble service, or are you grasping for control? The mighty God didn't use His authority to escape suffering but to redeem it. Today, identify one area where you're resisting God's authority in your life. Perhaps it's unforgiveness you're clinging to, or a dream you won't release. Remember: every knee will eventually bow. Don't wait—bow today in willing surrender, and discover the freedom that comes from trusting the One who has authority over all things.

## Day 3: The Victory of Obedience

Reading: Hebrews 12:2; Mark 1:12-13

Devotional: Christ's obedience wasn't passive compliance—it was active victory. In the wilderness, tempted in every way we are, He didn't easily resist; He battled and prevailed. We cannot take this

for granted. His obedience provides both our salvation and our example. When you face temptation today, remember you're not alone in the struggle. Christ understands the weight of it, and through His Spirit, He provides what you need for obedience. The lie whispers, "You can't resist; you've failed before; you're too weak." But the truth declares: you are empowered by the One who never failed. Obedience isn't perfection—it's direction. It's choosing, moment by moment, to trust God's way over your own. Where are you most tempted to compromise? In that specific area, ask Christ for His strength today. His victory becomes yours when you remain in Him.

## **Day 4: Reconciliation and Forgiveness**

Reading: Galatians 4:4-5; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

Devotional: At the appointed time, God sent His Son to reconcile what was broken—the relationship between holy God and sinful humanity. This reconciliation cost Christ everything, yet He considered you worth it. As recipients of this grace, we become stewards of reconciliation. Is there someone you need to forgive? A relationship that needs mending? God wants to reconcile the unforgiveness hardening your heart. Notice: reconciliation doesn't require the other person to apologize first. It begins with your willingness to release them to God's authority. You may protest, "You don't know what they did!" But consider what you did to Christ—and what He did for you. This Advent, as we celebrate God coming near, practice drawing near to those from whom you've distanced yourself. Even if full relationship isn't possible, forgiveness is. You've been entrusted with the mystery of God's reconciling love. Will you be found trustworthy with it?

## **Day 5: Living Under His Authority**

Reading: John 17:1-12; John 10:27-29

Devotional: Christ's prayer reveals the heart of His mission: glorifying the Father by accomplishing the work given Him and keeping those entrusted to His care. You are among those He prayed for—kept in His name, secure in His hand. No one can snatch you away. This security isn't permission for complacency but invitation to confident obedience. Because you belong to the mighty God, you can serve with abandonment, knowing He guards what matters most. As this year closes and a new one approaches, ask: Am I living like I truly believe Christ has authority over everything in my life? Or am I compartmentalizing—giving Him Sundays but not Mondays, my spiritual life but not my finances, my public persona but not my private thoughts? The disciples weren't easy to love, yet Christ remained faithful. He's faithful to you too. Today, recommit every area of your life to His lordship. What He's given you isn't ultimately yours—it's His, entrusted to your stewardship for His glory.