



MERRY  
CHRISTMAS



The image features four lit purple candles in the foreground, with their flames glowing. The background is dark with a bokeh effect of warm, golden light spots. A purple rectangular box is positioned in the upper right corner, containing the text 'Advent' and 'Lesson 4' in white.

# Advent

Lesson 4



*Adventus* – “arrival”

# Three Focuses



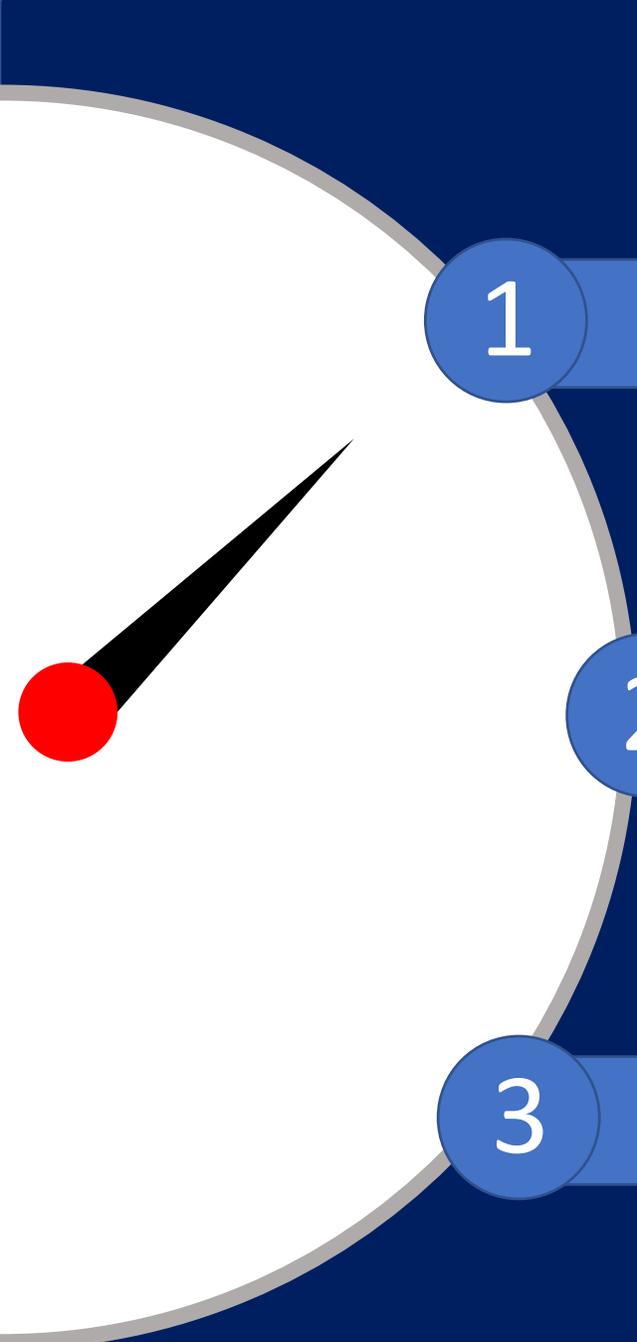
Arrival in  
Bethlehem



Arrival in  
your life



Arrival to  
come



1

Life's Curveballs

2

Our Testimony

3

Life's Curveballs

Are you a...



Luke 1:38 And Mary said,  
“Behold, I am the servant  
of the Lord; let it be to me  
according to your word.”  
And the angel departed  
from her.

Luke 1:24-25 εἶπεν δὲ  
Μαριάμ· ἰδοὺ ἡ δούλη  
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A well-known Hebrew construction: *eved adonai* - עֶבֶד-יְהוָה  
Israel at its best was the servant of the Lord

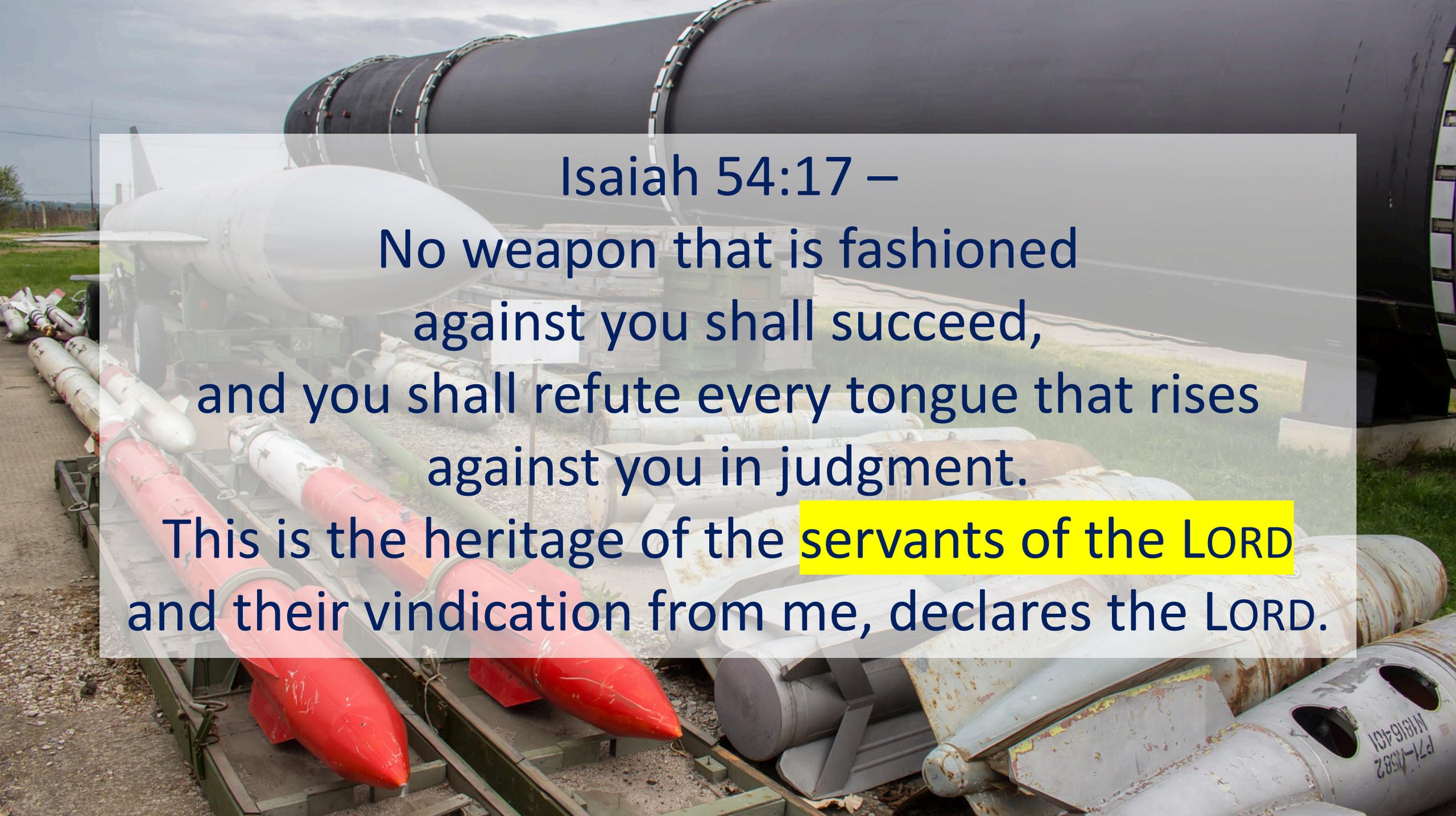
18x – Moses  
(Exm. Josh 22:4)

2x – Joshua  
2x - David

7x – Israel at its best  
(exm. 2 Ki. 9:7)

# **NASA's Parker Solar Probe enters the Sun's atmosphere for the first time**



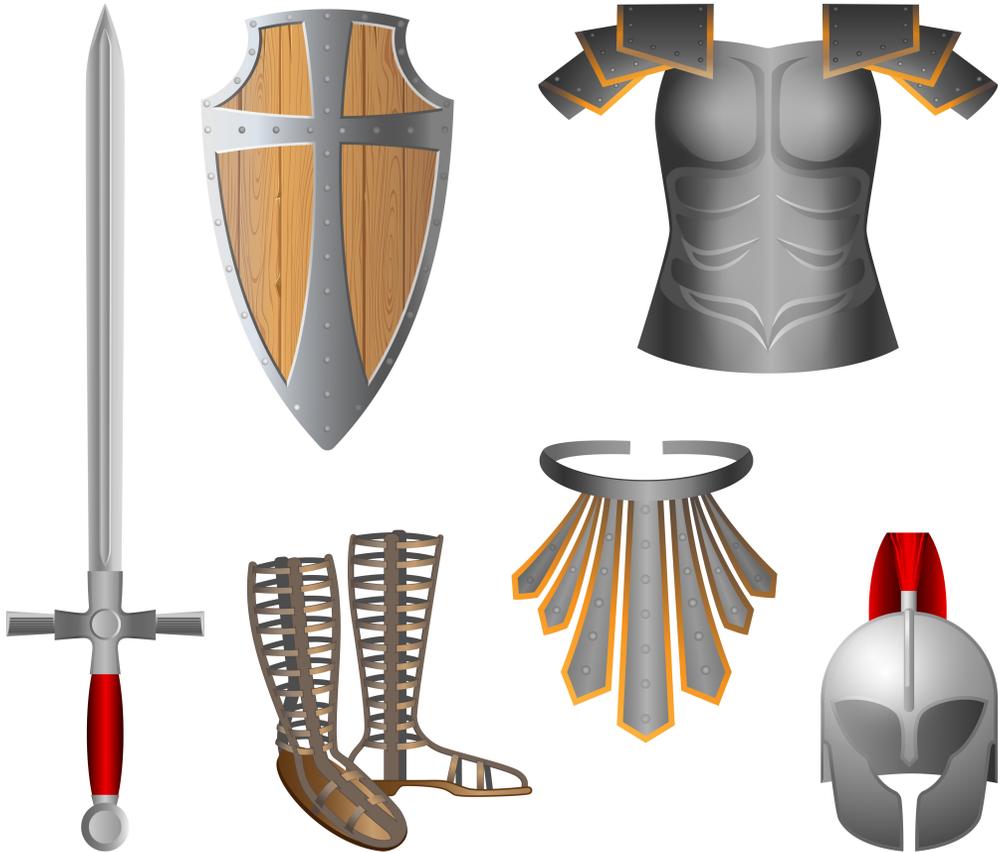


Isaiah 54:17 –

No weapon that is fashioned  
against you shall succeed,  
and you shall refute every tongue that rises  
against you in judgment.

This is the heritage of the **servants of the LORD**  
and their vindication from me, declares the LORD.

# THE ARMOR OF GOD



Ephesians  
6:10-18

# What are your struggles?



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## LET IT BE



When I find myself in  
times of trouble, Mother  
Mary comes to me,

"When I put that in the song, I think a lot of people then thought that it's become kind of quasi-religious with Mother Mary, Virgin Mary. Which is fine by me, if that's how you want to take it.

"The actual reason was my mom came to me in a dream and actually said 'Let it be,' which turned out to be great advice. Thanks, mom!"

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Are you a...



# Three Focuses



Arrival in  
Bethlehem



Arrival in  
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Arrival to  
come



1

Life's Curveballs

2

Our Testimony

Luke 1:39-40 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

Luke 1:39-40 Ἀναστᾶσα δὲ Μαριάμ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ταύταις ἐπορεύθη εἰς τὴν ὄρεινὴν μετὰ σπουδῆς εἰς πόλιν Ἰούδα, καὶ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὸν οἶκον Ζαχαρίου καὶ ἠσπάσατο τὴν Ἐλισάβετ.

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*spoudē* - σπουδή: move with speed, zeal, earnestness

2 Pet. 1:5

Jude 3

Rom 12:11

I need to do better...



Luke 1:41-42 And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!

Luke 1:41-42 καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ἤκουσεν τὸν ἀσπασμὸν τῆς Μαρίας ἢ Ἐλισάβετ, ἐσκίρτησεν τὸ βρέφος ἐν τῇ κοιλίᾳ αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐπλήσθη πνεύματος ἁγίου ἢ Ἐλισάβετ, καὶ ἀνεφώνησεν κραυγῇ μεγάλῃ καὶ εἶπεν· εὐλογημένη σὺ ἐν γυναιξίν καὶ εὐλογημένος ὁ καρπὸς τῆς κοιλίας σου

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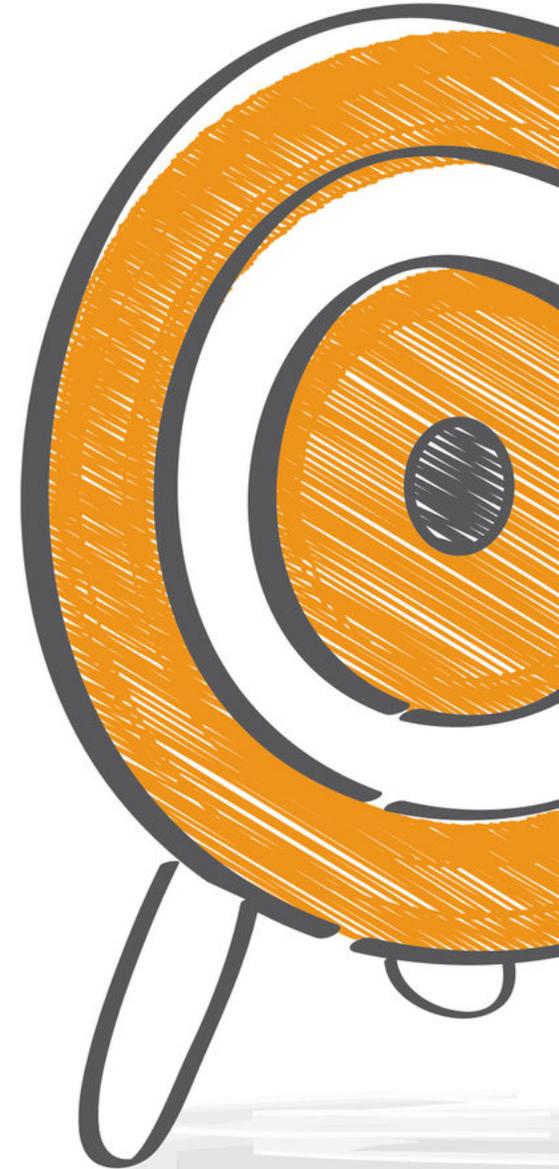
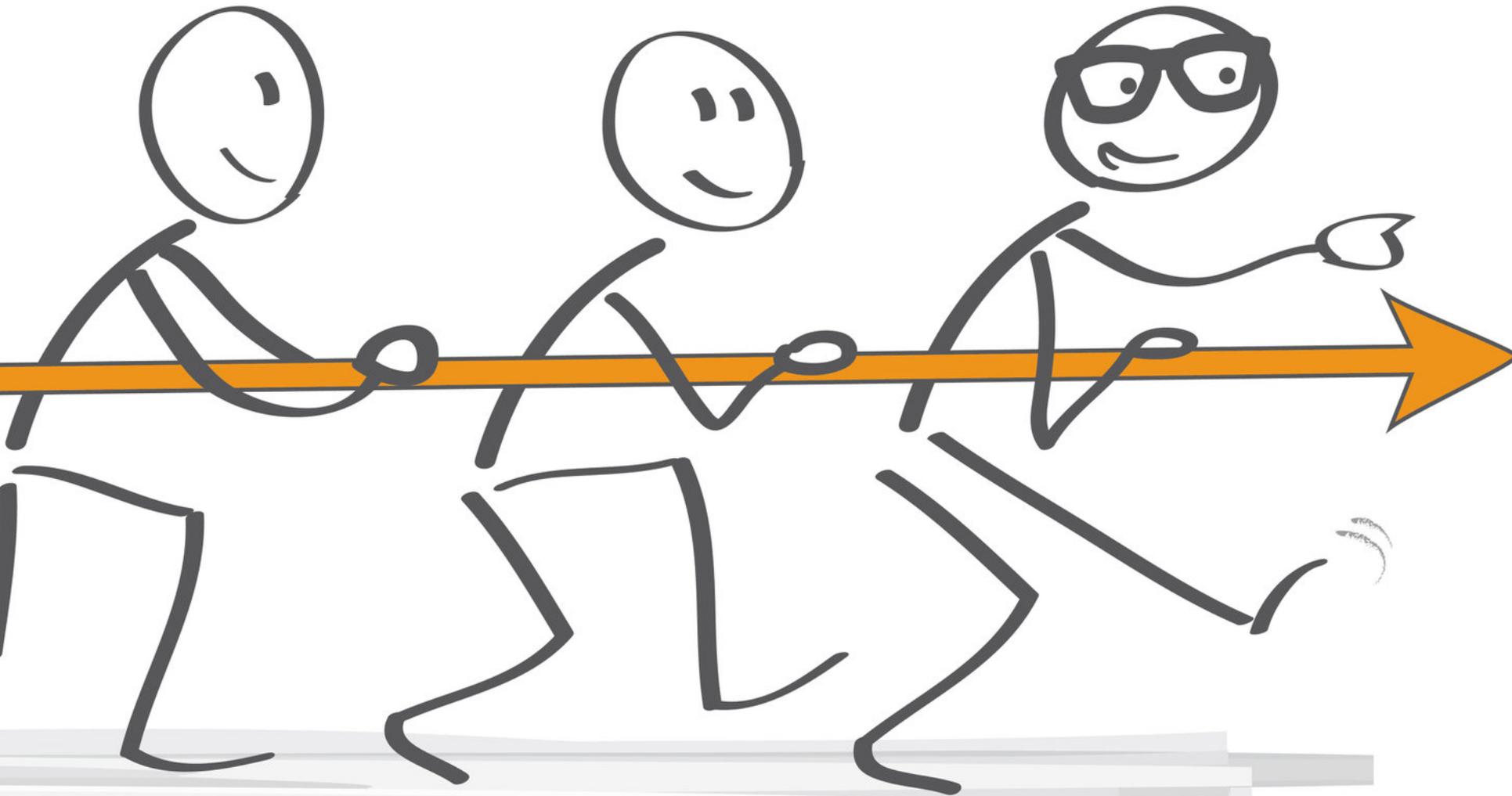
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Jn 15:26-27

Jn 16:14

The Holy Spirit works through  
people to testify to Christ



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Luke 1:43-44 And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.

Luke 1:43-44 καὶ πόθεν μοι τοῦτο ἵνα ἔλθῃ ἡ μήτηρ τοῦ κυρίου μου πρὸς ἐμέ; ἰδοὺ γὰρ ὡς ἐγένετο ἡ φωνὴ τοῦ ἀσπασμοῦ σου εἰς τὰ ὠτὰ μου, ἐσκίρτησεν ἐν ἀγαλλιάσει τὸ βρέφος ἐν τῇ κοιλίᾳ μου.

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When did you last jump for joy?









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Luke 1:46-49 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name..."

Luke 1:46-49 Καὶ εἶπεν  
Μαριάμ· Μεγαλύνει ἡ ψυχὴ μου  
τὸν κύριον, καὶ ἠγαλλίασεν τὸ  
πνεῦμά μου ἐπὶ τῷ θεῷ τῷ  
σωτήρῳ μου, ὅτι ἐπέβλεψεν ἐπὶ  
τὴν ταπείνωσιν τῆς δούλης  
αὐτοῦ. ἰδοὺ γὰρ ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν  
μακαριοῦσίν με πᾶσαι αἱ γενεαί,  
ὅτι ἐποίησέν μοι μεγάλα ὁ  
δυνατός. καὶ ἅγιον τὸ ὄνομα  
αὐτοῦ...



Do you often break out into song?



# Three Focuses



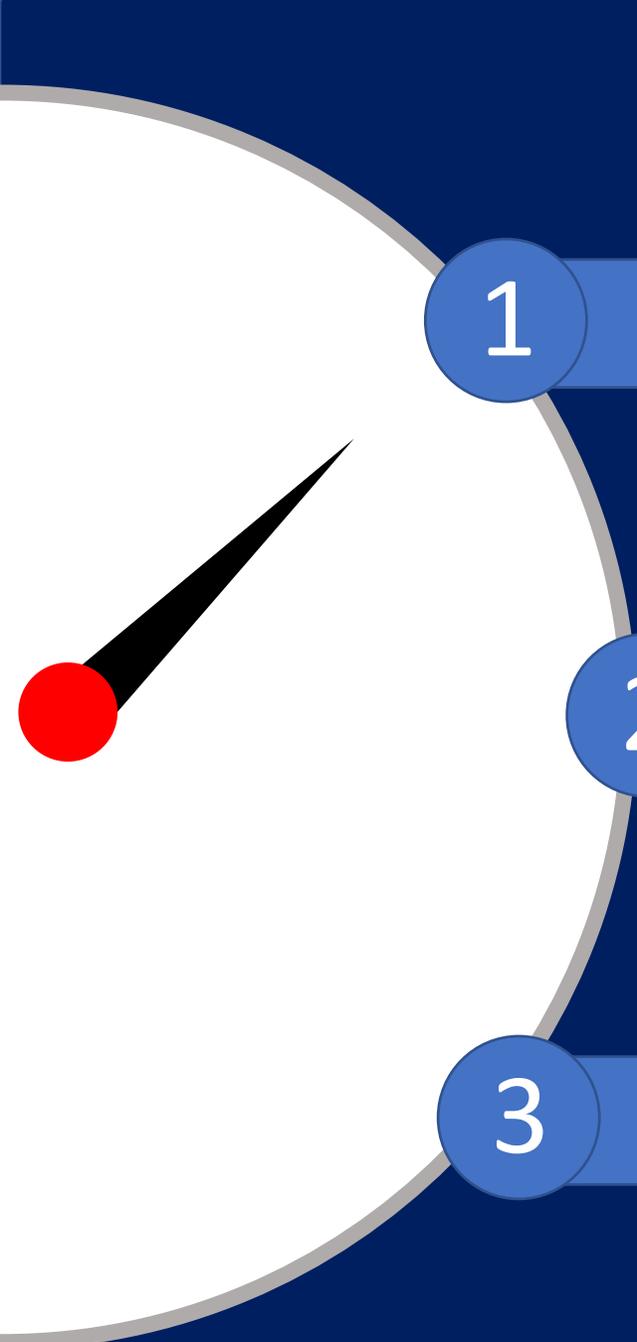
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Luke 1:50-53 And his mercy  
is for those who fear him  
from generation to  
generation.

Luke 1:50 καὶ τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ εἰς  
γενεὰς καὶ γενεὰς  
τοῖς φοβουμένοις αὐτόν

Translation  
is NOT  
math!



Luke 1:50-53 And his **mercy** is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

Luke 1:50 καὶ τὸ **ἔλεος** αὐτοῦ εἰς γενεὰς καὶ γενεὰς τοῖς φοβουμένοις αὐτόν

*eleos* - ἔλεος : mercy, compassion, pity  
Kindness and concern expressed for someone in need

Lk 10:29-37

Matt 9:13

Luke 1:51 He has shown  
strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in  
the thoughts of their hearts;

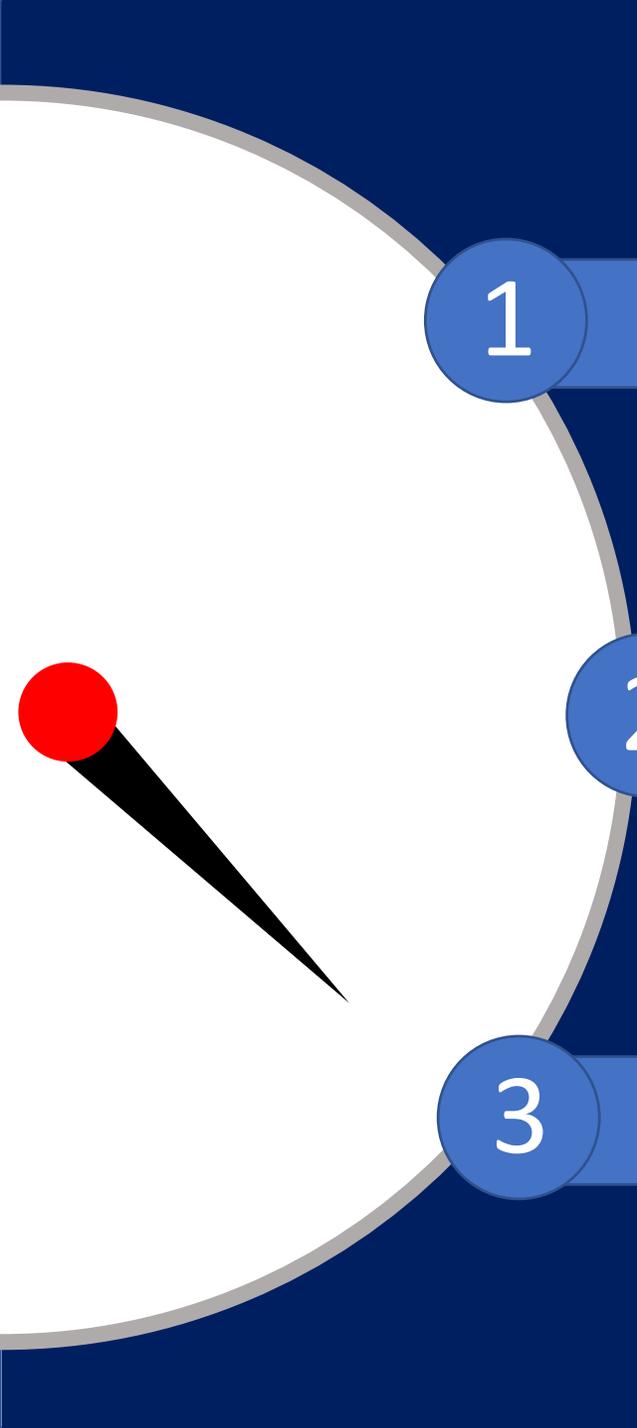
Luke 1:51 Ἐποίησεν κράτος ἐν  
βραχίονι αὐτοῦ,  
διεσκόρπισεν ὑπερηφάνους  
διανοία καρδίας αὐτῶν·

Luke 1:52-53 ...he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty

Luke 1:52-53 ... καθεῖλεν  
δυνάστας ἀπὸ θρόνων  
καὶ ὕψωσεν ταπεινοὺς, πεινῶντας  
ἐνέπλησεν ἀγαθῶν  
καὶ πλουτοῦντας ἐξαπέστειλεν  
κενοῦς

What's up and what's down?





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# Advent

Lesson 4

A lit candle in a dark holder is the central focus, casting a warm glow. To the left, a gift wrapped in shimmering gold paper is partially visible. The background features dark green pine branches, suggesting a winter or holiday setting. The overall scene is dimly lit, with the candle providing the primary light source.

Light for  
Today

Life throws curveballs  
But we're God's servants

And we tell the  
world about our God

Time for church!



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