

## Advent Devotion | Week One

### A NEW BEGINNING!

**Luke 1:7, 13, 18-19** <sup>NIV</sup>

*<sup>7</sup> But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old.*

*<sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.*

*<sup>18</sup> Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.” <sup>19</sup> The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news.*

I can resonate with Zechariah when he said, “How can I be sure of this?” Maybe, I would likely say, “How can it be?” Just like him and his wife, I am childless and somewhat “well along in years” too!

In life, some of our dreams might be fading away and not likely to come to pass. Unlike Zechariah and his wife, they eventually became parents but for me, I know motherhood is not my lot to have. It still saddens me.

But I am also convinced that we have a God who is more than able to fill the longings of our hearts. Motherhood is not for me, but that does not mean He does not have good news for me.

The blessing of God is not limited to our dreams on earth. There is so much more in His Kingdom that God wants to give us. Keep an open heart to anticipate and a posture yielded to the work of the Holy Spirit. Nothing can hinder the good news that He has for us regardless of our situation.

When our situation seems bleak or when our future is not promising, our hearts are afraid even to believe in the good news that God has for us. Like Zechariah, we may say "How can I be sure of this?"

This Advent, let keep our ears ready to hear what God is saying to us; to receive His good news for us, for our family and as a community of believers. We read in Isaiah 49: 9a *'Come out,' and to those in darkness, 'Be free!'*

Let this Advent be a new beginning of many wonderful discoveries and experiences in our journey of faith and our relationship with our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

Ps Amy Ong

## **Action**

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you where are you in your faith, your relationship and communion with God.
2. Ask God to set you free from that which is holding you back in having a vibrant faith and an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

## **Prayer**

*Our Father in heaven,  
During this Advent season, revived and refreshed my faith in You. Let today be a new beginning leading me into vibrant worship and deep communion with You. Awaken me and my family to hear Your good news afresh! In Jesus' Name. Amen.*

## Christmas Song

### Joy to the World!

Joy to the world, the Lord is come  
Let Earth receive her King  
Let every heart prepare Him room  
And Heaven and nature sing  
And Heaven and nature sing  
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing



Joy to the Earth, the Saviour reigns  
Let all their songs employ  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy

He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love  
And wonders of His love  
And wonders, wonders, of His love

