



# A Holiday Devotional Series

## Putting Him in Perspective



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### The Gift of Relationship

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Scripture: Psalm 23:4 "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will not fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me".

Matthew 1:23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

The holiday season is amongst us with Thanksgiving kicking off the season of festivities which includes: family, friends, fellowship, and food! Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus, our Lord, and Savior. It is indeed "the most wonderful time of the year". But for some this time of year or season may be called the "most" loneliest time of the year. For many the holidays beget loneliness, sadness, inner emptiness, feeling of not belonging, feeling of being left out, or simply social/relational disconnect.

Loneliness materializes from an array of things such as divorce, death, financial hardships, family disputes, geographical separation, and illness to name a few. Loneliness during this season does not just occur to singles but also married individuals because there may be a lack of connectedness, the feeling of being overwhelmed with the overall busyness of the season.

Being alone and being lonely are used synonymously but are not the same. Being alone is voluntary, by choice and being lonely is involuntary, not a choice. One can be alone and not lonely or one can be lonely and not alone. At some point in life, everyone has experienced loneliness, even in the world of social media (FACEBOOK, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok). Loneliness affects all walks of life.

During this holiday season, instead of trying to figure what do the lonely do for Christmas, it is a great time to put HIM in perspective allowing HIS WORD to provide the *ILLUMINATION* on how to cope with loneliness and thank GOD that He provides *STRENGTH* and *COMFORT*. This is the Joy we have this season that Jesus will never leave us or forsake us!

***Will you trust Jesus to be with you this season and forevermore? Do you trust His faithfulness to be our God and Lord with us? Be encouraged today in your soul that Jesus was sent to be with us and it is The Father's will of His presence in our lives. His eyes are on us!***