The Harness Devotional

23 November – 28 November, 2026

Waiting for Christ's Return

Scripture: Acts 1:10-11

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." NIV.

Song of the Week: "Even So Come" by Passion (featuring Kristian Stanfill)
This anthem perfectly captures the tension of hoping and getting ready. Drawing heavily from the warnings and promises of Christ's return, the song calls the church to *"Like a bride waiting for her groom... we'll be a church ready for You."* It acts as a powerful prayer of preparation and expectant hope.

Monday: Light in the Darkness

Scripture: *"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."* — Isaiah 9:2

Reflection: Hope does not deny the reality of darkness; it simply refuses to let darkness have the last word. Isaiah spoke these words to a nation feeling hopeless and spiritually blind. True, biblical hope is the confident expectation that God's light is already on the way to pierce through your darkest night.

Prayer: Lord, when the world around me feels heavy and dark, anchor my soul in Your light. Help me to carry the hope of Your presence wherever I go today.

Tuesday: The Gift of Peace

Scripture: *"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given... And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."* — Isaiah 9:6

Reflection: Getting ready for what God wants to do requires aligning our hearts with who He is. Jesus doesn't just offer peace; He *is* our peace. In a chaotic world, we prepare our hearts by sitting at the feet of our Wonderful Counselor and trusting our Everlasting Father to hold our future.

Prayer: Jesus, I welcome You into my worries today as my Prince of Peace. Calm my anxious thoughts and remind me that You are in total control.

Wednesday: The Signs of the Times

Scripture: *"There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea... When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."* — Luke 21:25, 28

Reflection: When the world feels like it is shaking, Jesus gives a surprising command: look up. The unsettling events of this world are not a sign to hide in fear, but a reminder that our ultimate redemption is approaching. Shaking times are meant to wake us up and shift our eyes from earthly security to eternal hope.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, when the world shakes, don't let my heart fail from fear. Give me the grace to stand tall, look up, and remember that my Redeemer is close.

Thursday: Lessons from the Fig Tree

Scripture: *"Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near."* — Luke 21:29-31

Reflection: Nature naturally prepares for a change of seasons. Jesus uses the fig tree to teach us spiritual alertness. Getting ready means being observant, staying spiritually sensitive, and recognizing that God is constantly moving things forward toward the fulfillment of His grand kingdom plan.

Prayer: Father, give me spiritual eyes to see what You are doing in this generation. Keep me alert to the seasons of Your kingdom and ready for Your next move.

Friday: Guarding Your Heart

Scripture: *"Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap."* — Luke 21:34

Reflection: Readiness is a daily battle of the heart. Jesus warns us against two dangerous extremes that numb our spiritual awareness: worldly indulgence and the paralyzing anxieties of everyday life. We stay ready by actively offloading our worries onto Him so our hearts remain light, unburdened, and focused.

Prayer: Lord, guard my heart against the distractions and worries of this life. Wash away anything that numbs my faith, and keep my heart burning with love for You.

Saturday: Standing Before the Son of Man

Scripture: *"Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."* — Luke 21:36

Reflection: The ultimate goal of our waiting, watching, and hoping is the moment we face Jesus. We build a life of readiness on a foundation of consistent, daily prayer. When we stay connected to the Vine through prayer, we ensure that we won't be caught off guard, but will instead step into eternity with joy and confidence.

Prayer: Jesus, keep me watchful and anchored in prayer. May my life be found ready, and may my heart be full of anticipation for the day I see You face to face. Amen.