

Dwelling Richly  
COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY



Long Expected

Jesus

Advent Devotional  
2022





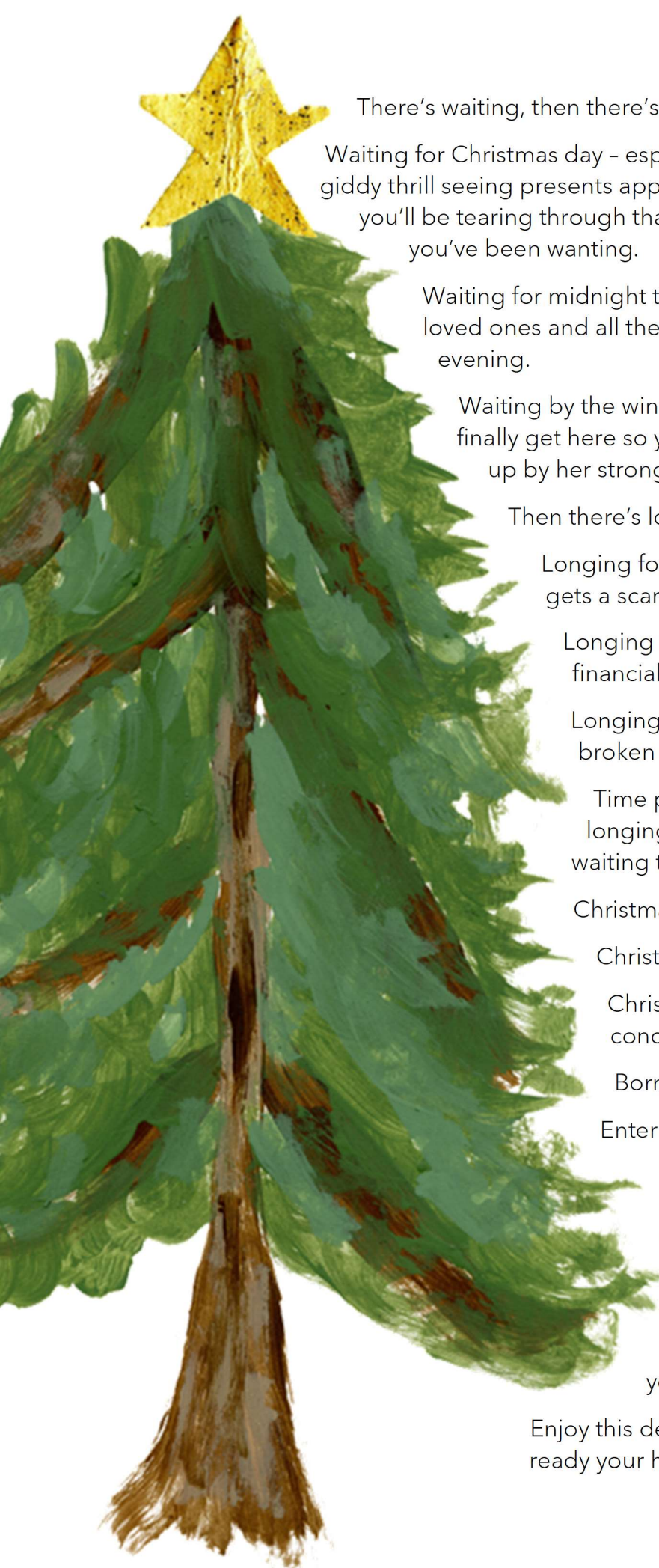


"Let the Word of Christ  
dwell in you richly."

Colossians 3:16

# Dwelling Richly

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There's waiting, then there's longing.

Waiting for Christmas day - especially when you're a child - and the giddy thrill seeing presents appear under the tree knowing that soon you'll be tearing through that festive paper to see if you got what you've been wanting.

Waiting for midnight to cheer in the new year surrounded by loved ones and all the hope and sentimentality of that evening.

Waiting by the window and listening for grandma's car to finally get here so you can get a hug and feel swallowed up by her strong loving arms.

Then there's longing...

Longing for answered prayer when a dear friend gets a scary diagnosis.

Longing for relief when you are struggling financially.

Longing for hope when your relationships are broken and hurting

Time passes in both the waiting and the longing but while hearts are cheered in the waiting they can become weary in the longing.

Christmas is the relief from longing.

Christmas is the hope finally dawning.

Christmas is the unexpected, miraculously conceived, and long expected Savior.

Born to set us free.

Enter into this season of Advent with hope and expectation.

Allow the delight to cool any cynical thoughts and rekindle the joy of your longing heart.

Read His Words of promise and hope and let this be a time to find your rest in Him.

Enjoy this devotional journal as a guide to help ready your heart for the long expected Jesus.

## How to Approach this Devotional Journal

For the next five weeks we'll be dwelling in God's Word making room in our heart for our Savior and allowing the Holy Spirit to teach us.

This is a devotional – but it's different.

Instead of a daily “devotional thought” to read, this devotional will give you a weekly passage from God's living Word to read and meditate on.

Let the Word be your guide.

This devotional gives you space to write out the prompting God brings to your own heart from His Word with the goal of knowing God better.

Let the Spirit be your Teacher.

Each week will give you time to reflect on the passage we covered in the past Sunday's message.

Here's how to approach this devotional study:

**1) Pray.** Take the time to speak to the Father and let Him speak to you. Be thoughtful and intentional in this opening time and let it set the tone for your time in the Word.

**2) Memorize.** Each week you'll have a verse to memorize. Read, write, meditate on that verse throughout the week. Highlight the verse in your Bible. Write it on a sticky note. Keep those words before you all week and let those words dwell in you.

**3) Dwell.** Read the passage for that day with a heart first to see God.

Always ask: “How can I know God better?”

Contact me with any questions or comments:

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Blessings in Christ,

*Jennifer*























