

DEVOTIONAL

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What do the holidays mean to you? Family fun?
Decorations? Loneliness? Disappointment?

There are so many things we might hope for during this time of year. But when we place our hopes in people or holidays or any other earthly thing, we are sure to be disappointed at some point.

The Lord God tells Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:9, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” And Paul responds, “Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.”

Sometimes the holidays highlight our weaknesses, but we have assurance that Christ’s power is enough – more than enough – to see us through! There are times when the disappointments seem impossible to overcome, so much so that feelings of despair might lead a person to thoughts of suicide. These thoughts might be amplified for people also facing lack of resources, alcohol or substance abuse, or relationship challenges. Satan tries to convince us that we can’t make it through these tough seasons. But Christ’s love and his forgiveness don’t fade in any season! Psalm 31:14 - 15 says: “But I trust in you, Lord; I say, “You are my God.” My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me. Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love.

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ove.”May God help us to place our hopes on him this holiday season, and trust his unfailing love!Are you struggling with thoughts of suicide? Please reach out, we’d love to connect you with a pastor in your area who can offer support.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus,

The holidays we celebrate point to your goodness, yet they also often highlight the results of sin in this world—loneliness, disappointment, hurt, and despair.

Walk with the lonely, that they may find solace in your omniscient presence. Remind the disappointed of your unfailing promises. Comfort the hurting with your limitless love. And shine your light of hope to those who despair in darkness.

We ask this in your name,

Amen

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