

When God Moves

Prepared for You

World Outreach Church
Sermon Discussion Guide
Sunday Sermon: December 07, 2025



It's Advent Season—the four weeks preceding Christmas Day when we prepare our hearts for the arrival of our King. This second week of Advent focuses on "peace and preparation," reminding God's people of Joseph and Mary's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, where Mary gave birth to Jesus. It's also a season when our faith has a great opportunity to step forward. Christmas puts our Lord front and center on the world's stage, giving us an open door to be excited about Him, talk about Him, and decorate and give gifts just because of His birth. It's our chance to live *into* a culture that tends to set aside God's principles and values. Let's take this opportunity to turn up the light amid increasing spiritual darkness and courageously lead with our faith. God is moving, and He has made preparations for us so we can shine for Him and His purposes in the earth!

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. ²⁰ But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." ... ²⁴ And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife. Matthew 1:18-24 (NASB[®])

I. GOD IS PREPARED — *DESIRE, EFFORT, ABILITY*

Job 38:1-6 *Then the Lord answered Job out of the storm. He said: ² "Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge? ³ Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me. ⁴ Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. ⁵ Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? ⁶ On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone?"*

Our awareness of God can erode and be diminished by the cultural messaging that cascades over us each day. How can we actively fight against this diminishment? How can we restore and increase our awareness of God?

A. God Has a Plan — Incarnation & Parousia

Galatians 4:4 *But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law.*

Romans 5:6-8 *You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

John 18:37 *"You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."*

B. God Has Planned Well

1 Corinthians 2:8 (NASB[®]) *(God's) wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory ...*

Jeremiah 29:11 *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

Do you live with the imagination that God is aware of you? If so, how do you express your belief that He has a plan for you and carefully watches over your life?

In what ways have you recognized that God has prepared (or is preparing you) for a specific challenge or opportunity?

C. God's Plan Will Be Completed

2 Peter 3:3-7 *First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. ⁴They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." ⁵But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. ⁶By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. ⁷By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.*

God's plan will be completed, and the best indicator of God's faithfulness in the future is God's faithfulness in the past. God is trustworthy. But the more important question is, are we? God is faithful, but are we?

Describe how you can surrender to God's preparation, even when it's difficult or uncomfortable.

II. GOD HAS PREPARED FOR US

A. God Has a Plan Which Includes You

Ephesians 2:8-10 *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- ⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

How can you encourage others to trust in God's preparation and sovereignty in their lives? What part of your God-story could make a difference in their ability to believe?

B. God Has a Plan for Your Good

1 Corinthians 2:9 (NASB[®]) *But just as it is written, "THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD, AND which HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN, ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."*

John 1:47-51 *When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false." ⁴⁸"How do you know me?" Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel." ⁵⁰Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You shall see greater things than that." ⁵¹He then added, "I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."*

Share some ways we can cultivate an attitude of surrender and obedience that says "yes" to God's plans.

C. God's Purposes for You Will Be Completed

Hebrews 12:2-3 *Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

What are some common causes of spiritual weariness or losing heart? What practical steps we can take to rejuvenate our spiritual lives and stay connected to God?

PRAYER/DECLARATION OF INTENT

Luke 1:38 *"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered.
"May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.*

Proclamation: I am the Lord's servant—may it be to me as God has said! I want God's plan for my life. I want to yield to Him. I will no longer demand of God to do my bidding—I will do His.