

# Action Advent



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Make a *difference* this Christmas

## Action Advent inside

Look for an opportunity to encourage someone at work, school, home or in your neighbourhood today.

Read the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) and reflect on what chimes with you this Christmas season.

As you write your Christmas cards or messages include an extra line of encouragement rather than just signing your name.

### Angel

**'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.'**

Luke 1:30-31

Pause and think of someone who is overwhelmed this time of year – or someone whose business is too quiet. Pray for them.

Give someone a Christmas decoration to hang on their tree or decorate their home and let them know you care.

Thank someone for what they do – the bus driver, checkout assistant, teacher, street cleaner, post person, floor manager.

### Mary

**'But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.'**

Luke 2:19

Pause and ponder... what will today (or tomorrow) be like? How can you make a difference to others in the midst of it all?

Have a 'yes' day – quickly say 'yes' when asked to help at home, school, or work.

Sing someone's praises today – try and spot someone who doesn't always get thanked.

Pray for an opportunity to share something of your testimony with someone today.

Notice someone who's stressed or overworked and ask how you can help.

### Joseph

**'Joseph, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is being conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ...you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.'**

Matthew 1:20-21

Spend 10 minutes in prayer reflecting on something in your life that's challenging you – and give it to God.

### Shepherds

**'There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby... an angel of the Lord appeared to them and said "I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people."'**

Luke 2:8-10

How can you help those around you get time off and rest over Christmas – whether at work or at home?

Offer hospitality to someone who might be lonely this season – how can you involve them in your traditions?

Start a chat about what Christmas means to the people around you, and share your own perspective as a Christian.

Support a charity that provides food and shelter to those who need it this Christmas.

### Magi

**'Where is the one who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.'**

Matthew 2:2

Offer to pay for the person in front of you in the coffee shop or lunch queue.

Pause and pray for each person you are giving gifts to in the next few days.

Go out into your neighbourhood and enjoy the lights – pray for where you live, that the light of Christ may be seen here.

### Jesus

**'For to us a child is born, to us a son is given... And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.'**

Isaiah 9:6