

# SENT into LENT

**Lent Daily  
Devotions  
for Teens and  
Young Adults**

# ASH WEDNESDAY

Then the **LORD** God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

*Genesis 2:7*

It's Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. Let's think of today as the first big step on a journey this season. Are you ready to get moving? The trip is twofold. Each Lent certainly is a journey with Christ as he heads faithfully to the cross in our place. But we also begin—this Ash Wednesday and every day—on a journey through Christ into the world around us and on his behalf.

Remember, this is not a last-minute vacation. It isn't a spring break trip we've just thrown together. This journey has been well planned out, long before you were born, and with you—you specifically—in mind. You're not here just to tag along, either. This Lent, this day, each day, you've been **SENT**.

That's right. You! God has a calling, a purpose, a destination in store for you! Even you! Especially you! God has had your sending in mind since the beginning of creation. From the moment God formed you, from the instant God breathed life into your body, you are **SENT!**

Let's search through Scripture to learn more about that “sending” this Lent. We'll hear how God has sent people, some older and some young, just like you, on this journey. Let's let God's Good News be the motivation to our salvation destination.

## THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

*Genesis 2:8, 15*

God made Adam—and that means God created you—for a purpose. We were created to live in paradise with God. We were made to do God’s good work in creation! Look around this Lent. What good work—big things (and little things too)—can you do to improve God’s world?

## FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, **but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.**”

*Genesis 2:16-17*

Right at the start of the journey, sin knocks us off track. Temptation leads us off the path that God sends us down. And the consequences are grim. Pray this Lent for God’s guidance. Commit to follow!

# SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

The LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken.

*Genesis 3:23*

Adam and Eve were the first “sent into Lent,” and that wasn’t such a good thing. Because of sin, they had to leave God’s presence. Because of their disobedience, they were no longer welcome in paradise. They were sent into the world ... to work ... to be dust again.

But we read Genesis 3:15 that God is “sending” again. An offspring will crush the tempter. Paradise can be our destination again.

## SUNDAY, THE FIRST WEEK

You are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, “Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.” **When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways.**

*Acts 3:25-26*

God made a promise—to Adam and Eve, to Abraham, to all the faithful through the ages and to YOU! God sends his servant to bless YOU, to grab the wheel and turn you away from sin and death. Pray this Lent for God to take control.

# MONDAY, THE FIRST WEEK

God said to Noah, “I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives with you.”

*Genesis 6:13, 18*

Things looked bleak. Sin was so widespread that God wanted to start over, to wipe the slate clean and begin again. But instead, God sent Noah on a voyage. Noah’s trip was, like ours, one that moved him from certain death to life renewed and restored. God kept the promise to save faithful Noah. And through God’s sent Servant, Jesus, that same promise is ours as well.

Look around you. Do things look pretty bleak? Are the temptations to stray from God’s path too strong. God has a promise for you when those things rise like floodwaters. Put your trust in God. He will carry you through.

*Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles. —Isaiah 40:31*

## TUESDAY, THE FIRST WEEK

Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

*Genesis 6:22*

God sent Noah. God sends you! Pray that your response to God's call be the same as Noah's.

## WEDNESDAY, THE FIRST WEEK

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

*Genesis 12:1-4*

Maybe you don't think this applies to you. After all, Abram was old! He was content, I'm sure, in his own ways—probably looking forward to a relaxing retirement. But God sent Abram. God called him away from a comfortable, easy life to pursue the promise of a new and better land.

This does apply to you. Going your own way, following the things that tempt you, is easy and comfortable. But you've been called, sent really, by God. There is a new home in store for you, much better by far than the one promised to Abram. Pay attention to that call! God's blessing is for YOU!



## THURSDAY, THE FIRST WEEK

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”

*Matthew 16:24-25*

Still don't think Abram's call applies to you? What if I told you that it's really the same call, the same sending, that Jesus gave all of his disciples. (That most assuredly includes you.)

“Deny yourself,” Jesus says. Going your own way won't get you there. “Take up your cross and follow me.” Grab those things that are holding you back and hand them over to Jesus. Jesus can carry them, just as he carried his cross for you.

Let Jesus bear the load of your sin. You simply can't do it without him. And when you've handed your life over, when you've accepted Jesus' help and forgiveness, then you're ready to follow—then you are truly heaven-sent!

# SENT into LENT

Throughout Scripture, God sends his faithful servants to work, sharing the good news of salvation. That sending continues every day, even now. This Lent, learn more about those sent servants while finding encouragement to answer Christ's continued call to action in your life.

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