



Welcome to the International Aid Trust
Advent Reflection for 2023.

This year as we pray for all that God is doing
through the charity, we reflect on the promise of
the Messiah in Isaiah 9 verse 6;

**“For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his
shoulders.**

**And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”**

Some days there is a phrase from the Bible
verse to help us reflect on who Jesus is.

Some days there are areas of our ministry to
give thanks and pray for.

We pray that this pack will bring encouragement
and hope in Jesus, this advent season.



ADVENT REFLECTION 2023

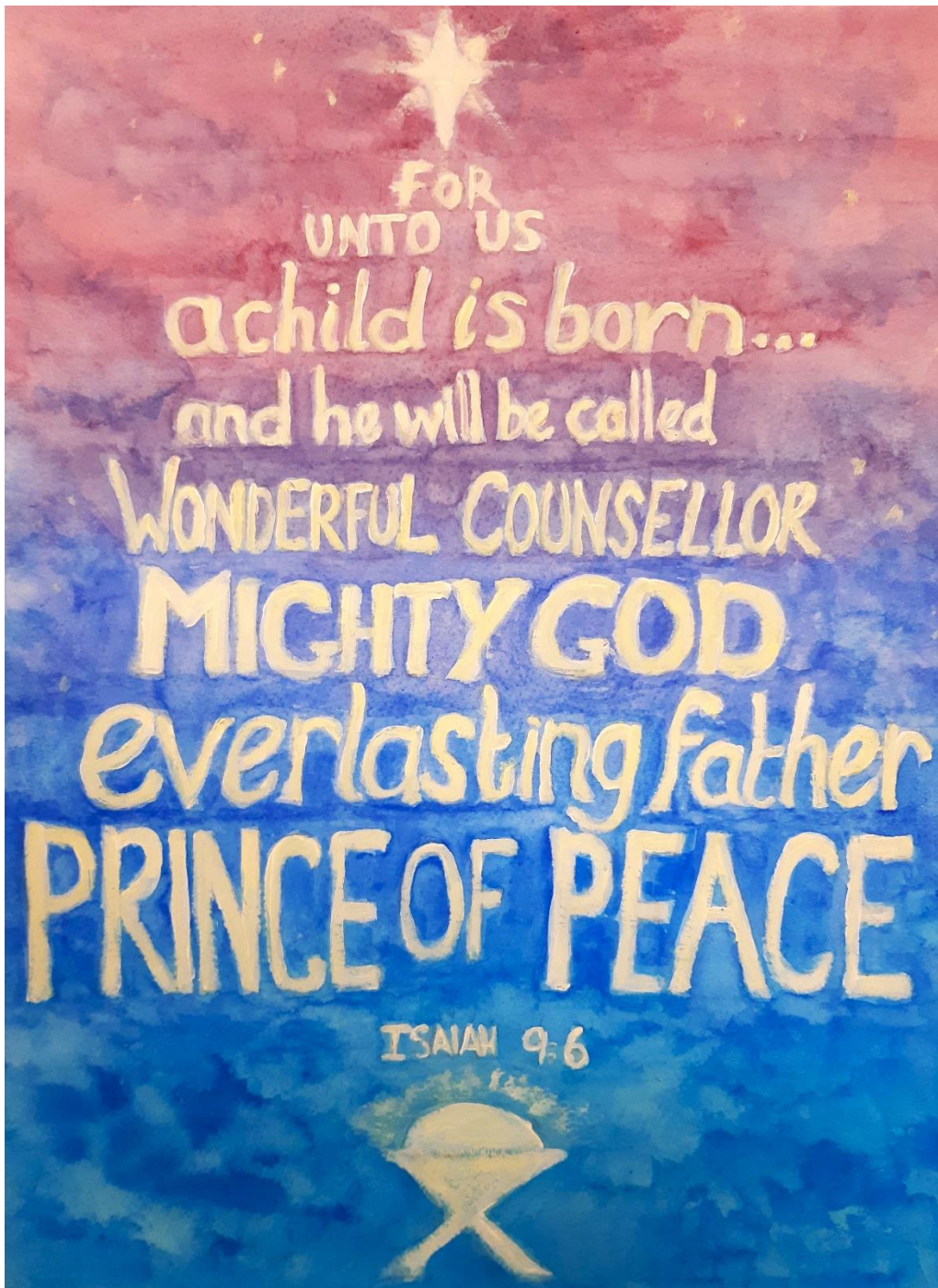
*International
Aid Trust*
Christian Compassion For A Hurting World

In this pack are:

- 1) the calendar of prayer points for each day.
- 2) the picture background and words to colour or decorate each day or week.

How to use this reflection:

- Create your background: Join the 2 A4 pages together and colour or paint the background: sky, stars, ground and manger.
- For each day there is a phrase from the Bible verse and thought to reflect on or an area of our work to give thanks and pray for.
- You could choose to colour in or decorate one of the words on the picture each day or on the day that word is used in the reflection.
- Use your imagination! How you colour / paint / decorate is up to you!
- Please adapt and use this resource as it works for you – it can be done alone, with a child or as a family day by day; or as a group who meet weekly praying for those 7 areas at one meeting, or with a larger group at 1 meeting.
- The image is designed to fill an A3 sheet, but you can photocopy it larger to create a bigger finished picture.



ADVENT REFLECTION 2023

*In***t**ernational
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Here is an example of how to colour the words and background, but it's great if you want to use your own creative interpretation! This picture has a watercolour bright night sky background, with the letters painted in acrylic paint. You could use felt pens / pastels / collage or other materials.

We'd love to see your artwork or to hear how you are using the Advent Reflection Pack!

You can email photos to
julie@internationalaidtrust.org.uk
Or tag us if you share your scene on social media:

Facebook: @internationalaidtrusthq

Instagram: @internationalaidtrust

Twitter: @IATonline

December Daily Reflection and Prayer

1) 'For to us a child is born...' Isaiah 9v6

As we wonder at the promise of Isaiah fulfilled in God sending his own son as a baby, we thank Him for his care for babies born in difficult circumstances, such as little James Clayton, who with his young mum, Mary, are being supported by our team in Sierra Leone



5) We give thanks for all our UK managers in the offices, warehouse and shops. Please pray for them to know God's wisdom and help in every situation.



9) We give thanks for the after school clubs in the Philippines, providing a safe place for street children and those from poor families, please pray for them to know God's fatherly care.

2) Give thanks for our Midwife Marion and Nurse Rebecca in Sierra Leone, travelling to villages, supporting people with illnesses and injuries as well as new and expectant mums. Pray for wisdom in treating patients, safe deliveries, healthy mums and babies.

6) Give thanks for our Country Directors overseas, sharing Christ's love and compassion with people in very difficult circumstances, like Pastor Michael and Alice in Sierra Leone. Please pray for them to know the help of Jesus, our Wonderful Counsellor with them in their ministry.

10) '... Mighty God, Everlasting Father,...' Isaiah 9v6

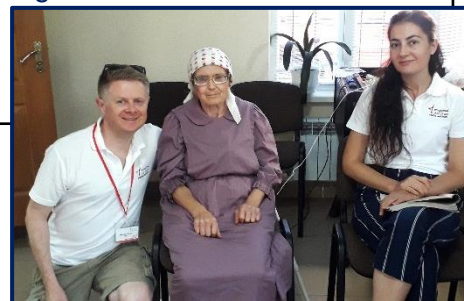
These descriptions of the Messiah remind us of Jesus' divine power and strength, and that he is our compassionate protector and provider. We pray we will bring all our cares to Jesus trusting in his sovereign power and loving kindness.

3) '... And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor...' Isaiah 9v6

Jesus is the Lord whose plans are wonderful and whose counsel we should seek.

We pray that God will help us to daily spend time in His Word, so he can teach us and guide us.

7) We give thanks for New Hope Primary School and New Hope Academy; our new secondary school in Sierra Leone. We pray that God will lead and guide the teachers and pupils in all their studies and that as the children learn about Jesus, they will come to lasting faith.



11) Give thanks for the churches in Moldova supporting vulnerable elderly people, with practical aid and prayer, please pray for those supported to know God's help and strength in their situation.

4) Give thanks for our CEO and Founder Rev. Bernard Cocker and all our Trustees. Please pray for God's wise counsel and guidance for them as they lead the charity.



8) Give thanks for the evangelists from New Hope Church in Sierra Leone who travel to villages to share the gospel. Please pray that God will guide their words to bring people to new life in Christ, like those pictured being baptised by Pastor Michael, Bernard & Sandy, our chair of Trustees.

12) We thank God for the 'Vision Mission' visit to Moldova, that the team were able to make a difference to the lives of over 1,200 people, like Maria pictured with Ian and Natalya, with her new spectacles. Please pray for Pastor Victor and the church members as they continue to reach out to their local community.

December Daily Reflection and Prayer

13) We give thanks for Prison Fellowship Romania, supporting prisoners and their families, vulnerable Roma communities and also Ukrainian refugees. Please pray for their 'Angel Network' delivering gifts at this time.

14) We thank God that over 650 tons of aid has been sent out to Ukraine and neighbouring countries supporting refugees, since the start of the war. Please pray for continued safe, smooth journeys for all the trucks we send.



15) We give thanks for everyone who fills shoebox gifts, for all our teams overseas distributing them and for the joy they bring! We pray that everyone who receives a shoebox will know that they are cared for and that they are loved by God.



16) We give thanks for all our volunteers in the UK shops, warehouse and office who make all that we do possible, through their time, care and skills. Please pray that they will be encouraged and know our Mighty God's help as they serve.

17) "...Prince of Peace..." Isaiah 9v6 Jesus' rule brings wholeness to the individuals and societies that recognise Him as King. We pray that as we worship Him, we will allow Him to rule in our hearts, minds and homes.



18) We lift up this hurting world and we pray for peace. We pray especially for an end to the war in Ukraine and for the Ukrainian forces that our team are able to help, we ask that God will use the mine detectors funded to save lives.

19) We give thanks for our team in Ukraine, led by Director Pastor Pasha as they tirelessly serve those affected by the war. Please pray for their safety as they travel and for them to know God's peace and help as they minister to people in need.

20) We thank God for the strength of the Ukrainian people throughout the war and for all the churches we work with reaching out with love. Please pray for all who are suffering to know God's peace which passes understanding, in their situation.



21) Give thanks for the churches in Ukraine's outreach to children, including Christmas parties like this one pictured at Moltivilovka Church, led by Pastor Andrei. Please pray for joyful times for the children over Christmas this year.

22) We thank God that the Prison Ministry in Ukraine is continuing and bringing hope and freedom in Christ to men and women in institutions in Odessa. Please pray that the prisoners will know God's peace even though they are away from loved ones.

23) We thank God for everyone who supports the work of International Aid Trust in any way; practically, financially and through prayer. Please pray for continued support in 2024 and for all our supporters to know Christ's love and peace this Christmas time.



24) "...For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders." Isaiah 9v6
We celebrate the birth of Jesus, Son of God, born of Mary, God's chosen King and Messiah, who fulfilled all that was written in the law and the prophets. With blessings from all at International Aid Trust this Christmas.



FOR
UNTO US

a child is born...
and he will be called

WONDERFUL COUNSELLOR
MIGHTY GOD

everlasting father
PRINCE^{OF} PEACE

ISAIAH 9v6

