

*5 2 W E E K S*  
*O F G R O W T H*

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*Give it a Year*  
*Week 39*

# WEEK 39

**Isaiah 40:3**

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“Prepare the way for the Lord; make straight paths  
for Him.”

As Christmas approaches, our calendars often fill quickly—shopping lists, gatherings, decorations, and endless to-dos. While these traditions can be joyful, they can also crowd our hearts, leaving little room for the One we are celebrating. Advent invites us to pause and prepare—not just our homes, but our hearts.

John the Baptist’s call to “prepare the way for the Lord” reminds us that preparation is a spiritual posture. It is an intentional turning of our hearts toward God. Just as the people of Israel awaited the Messiah with hope and longing, we are invited each year to renew our anticipation of Christ’s coming—both as the newborn King and the returning Savior.

Preparing our hearts means making room. It may require laying down distractions, releasing worries, or surrendering unmet expectations. It involves repentance, humility, and a willingness to let God realign our priorities. When we slow down to reflect on Christ’s first coming, we remember that God entered the world quietly—through a humble birth, in a stable, to a family that trusted Him completely.

Christmas is not about perfection but presence. God did not wait for the world to be ready; He came into brokenness with grace and light. As we prepare our hearts, we are invited to receive that same grace anew—to welcome Christ into every place that feels weary, cluttered, or unfinished.

This season, may we choose stillness over striving, worship over worry, and gratitude over excess. As we prepare our hearts, we discover that the greatest gift of Christmas is not found under a tree, but within a surrendered heart where Christ is welcomed and adored.

READ:

Luke 3:3–6

Matthew 1:22–23

John 3:16

Psalms 46:10

REFLECT:

- What distractions might be crowding my heart this season?
- In what ways can I intentionally create space for Christ each day?
- How can I reflect Christ's love and humility to others during this season?
- How can I offer my family and friends the same grace that God gives to me?

PRAYER:

Father God, as Christmas draws near, help me to prepare my heart for You. Quiet the noise around me and within me. Remove anything that keeps me from fully receiving Your presence. Fill me with wonder, gratitude, and renewed hope as I remember the gift of Your Son. May my life reflect the love and light of Christ this Christmas and always. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.