

December

CHRISTMAS TIME REFLECTION

DECEMBER MONTH IS MY FAVOURITE TIME OF THE YEAR. I FINALLY GET TO TAKE THAT TRIP UP THE MOUNTAIN OR TAKE A WALK ON THE BEACH. TWILIGHT LINGERS LONGER AND FROM EVERY CORNER, THE AROMAS OF CHRISTMAS, ASSAILS MY NOSTRILS. BRIGHT LIGHTS AND CHILDREN'S ANTICIPATION, BRING A SMILE TO MY FACE. YET, AS MUCH AS I LOVE THE CHRISTMAS MINCE PIES, LIGHTS, GIFTS AND MEALS, I ALSO HAVE TO REFLECT ON THE TRUE MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS.

FOR US AT SCRIPTURE UNION, IT IS MOSTLY A CULMINATION OF PREPARATION, AS SUMMER CAMPS AND MISSIONS PLAY ITSELF OUT ON THE BACKDROP OF BEACHES AND CAMPSITES. MINISTRY IS FULL BLOWN, BEFORE WE CAN ALL SINK INTO QUIET REFECTION OF THE YEAR WE HAVE EXPERIENCED. MAY YOU, TOGETHER WITH US, DESPITE THE CHALLENGES, PAUSE TO FIND THE SPACES GOD HAS BEEN WORKING IN YOUR LIFE THIS PAST YEAR. NOW LET'S GIVE HIM THANKS AND WORSHIP.

I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago (this past year) I will consider all your works and meditate on all your mighty works.

Psalms 77: 11-12

Monday, 1 | As a movement we have much to be grateful for this year. As we reflect, we give thanks for the adoption of a well revised constitution, a diverse, fresh National board and God's hand upon us during some challenging times.

Tuesday, 2 | The joy of fundraising and the stewardship thereof. SU Amatola expresses their gratitude today for the allocation of monies raised at their recent two ignite breakfast gatherings. Part of this effort has enabled us to run the Mdantsane holiday club and provided transport for schools ministry in this area.

Wednesday, 3 | SU Western Cape is most grateful for the copies of Closer to God that they could place in the hands of key teachers in their region. We thank God for the prayers prayed for the Closer to God resource and for the challenges overcome in bringing it to print.

Thursday, 4 | SU KZN gives thanks for the two new team members added to the family. Carol Douglas will be heading the SUI (Independent schools) and Pastor Mark Slaughter takes up the reigns as the new Chair of PMB. May their leadership/ministry season be both a value adds and a fulfilling one.

Friday, 5 | We are excited for the SU Algoa (Eastern Cape) "Reawkn" camp commencing today at the Sumcay campsite. We lift up all involved in the planning as well as the teenagers to you Lord. May many lives be transformed this holiday season. SU KZN is also starting their South coast "Kids" Summer camp today.

Saturday, 6 | Kindly join us in prayer for our SU Gauteng Summer camps taking place at Stoneyridge campsite. The Gauteng team has asked for prayer for the young people attending, the spirit and "vibe" at camp. Today is their second day of camp.

Sunday, 7 | We were privileged to be involved in a number of churches this past few weeks, in what is called SU Sundays. SU KZN particularly gives thanks for the open doors of the local church and the partnerships that are forging.

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Monday, 8 | SU KZN recently hosted their annual Bible Quiz and were most grateful to the Lord for a great turnout at the event. The first-place award went to Amy from a challenging background. She excelled and commented "Studying indoors every day was challenging but absolutely worth it."

Tuesday, 9 | SU Gauteng recently were privileged to run two events in conjunction with Kim Ballantine from Johannesburg. It was a most successful session and many could resonate with her story -rooted in SU.

Wednesday, 10 | The hugely popular SU Western Cape Teen camp commences today at the Rocklands campsite Simonstown. Please join us in prayer for the 120 campers and 30 leaders, as they trust God for a mighty encounter with God this week. Pray for Jordan Benson and her team.

Thursday, 11 | We invite you to pray for the SU Algoa and Eastern Cape's "Zootopia's Summer Special" camp. We ask you to particularly pray for the finance, training, as well all those in attendance. We are trusting you Lord for the next generation of leaders to emerge through this project.

Friday, 12 | SU KZN begins their "Kids Summer camp" in Pietermaritzburg. Pray for the safety of the children and leaders as the word of God is shared through the lives of the volunteers.

Saturday, 13 | Today SU KZN starts up their SU Christmas ministry in conjunction with a number of churches. Today they commence with Radiant Life ministries.

Sunday, 14 | Father, we commit the SU Western Cape Mini Camp starting today into your hands. We pray for the 40 primary school children and commit the leaders and children to the Lord. We pray too for their safety and responses to the gospel.

Monday, 15 | We give thanks for the faithful commitment of those who gathered from yesterday for the beach missions taking place in SU Amatola. This long running ministry event starts at Morgan Bay and Kilda beaches. and runs for 26 days Please pray for Owen as he coordinates this undertaking.

Tuesday, 16 | We give the Lord thanks for this special public holiday in our Nation. As a movement we take a moment to recognize the value of reconciliation, both in South Africa as well as our in our faith.

Wednesday, 17 | We give thanks for the SU Gauteng children's holiday club taking place in Qwa Qwa today. We commit Martha Nhlapo and Maggie Mamorobela into your hand Lord, asking for strength, wisdom and grace.

Thursday, 18 | Our SU KZN is hosting a special Christmas program and ministry running over the past week and days to come. It is in partnership with the local churches. This presents a wonderful opportunity as a movement to be both relevant and practical through this creative tool. We pray that it will reach many people.

Friday, 19 | Today we pray for the SU Gauteng teens camp starting up today. Please pray that the next 3 days will be an awesome time together as they meet with God.

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Saturday, 20 | We pray for safe travel for all of those travelling for the holidays. We ask for your protection on the roads for every driver and vehicle. Take us safely to our destinations and bring us back safely, O, God.

Sunday, 21 | We thank the Lord for the addition of the Glencairn campsite in the Western Cape that has been entrusted to us. We pray that you will lead us in its use and upkeep, for you name and kingdom, O, Lord.

Monday, 22 | We thank you for Alice Chinya and our finance team. We pray that they will enjoy a good break following a busy past few months. We especially pray for good health and full recovery for Lucinda Hendricks.

Tuesday, 23 | Today we focus our prayers upon the spiritual climate. We pray that you will keep every volunteer, committee member, staff person, support in your hand. Help us to remain hungry for God's word and his presence.

Wednesday, 24 | We commit the families of our staff into your hands today as they prepare for Christmas. Wives, partners, children and extended family often make huge sacrifices for us and today we thank you Lord for them and pray for your blessing upon them at this Christmas time.

Thursday, 25 | Christmas Day

Join us in thanksgiving this Christmas day in celebration of the culmination of the most important date on the advent calendar. A Saviour born to bring salvation to the world. It is indeed good news- Joy to the world.

Friday, 26 | Boxing Day

Traditionally today is known as Boxing day, a public holiday where gifts are enjoyed and the "Christmas boxes" they came in, cast aside.

Saturday, 27 | We thank you Lord for the role that Daryl Henning plays as our national chaplain. We commit him into your hands for renewed strength, good health and wisdom as he fulfils the purposes that he has been called to at this time.

Sunday, 28 | A number of our regions have requested prayer for staff who require rest and renewal. We ask you Lord that each of our team will be able to enjoy a good break at this time as they fill up their spiritual, mental and emotional tanks once ore.

Monday, 29 | Please keep the Plett. Beach mission in your prayers as the team gears up for the last half of their mission. Grant them strength and renewed passion to finish on a strong note.

Tuesday, 30 | Please remember to pray today for both Trevor Sauls as our new chairperson of Scripture Union National executive and Mariska de Beer our General director. We ask you Lord to guide both Trevor and Mariska- granting them wisdom, guidance and courage as we close out 2025

Wednesday, 31 | We close out 2025 with the prayer Lord, Maranatha- come, Lord Jesus- come - May your kingdom come.