

# advent. week two. "love." dec. 19 thru 25 2010



## sunday. dec. 19

scripture: isaiah 11.1 thru 10

### story:

story: <http://www.notforsalecampaign.org/about/slavery/real-stories-from-north-america/>

### prayer:

Jesus, you are love. You told us that no one has greater love than to lay down their life for a friend, and then you did just that. In this last week of waiting, keep us mindful that we are waiting for you; that we are waiting for love. As we prepare our celebrations of your birth, keep us mindful of how your mother prepared for your birth. And Jesus, God of Love, make our celebrations of your birthday truly be celebrations of the love of God coming into the world in flesh and humanity. Amen.

### challenge:

take some time to journal about your on-going story as an abolitionist.

## tuesday. dec. 21

scripture: micah 6.8

### freedom fact:

Some 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked internationally every year. Approximately 80% of them are women and children.

### prayer:

Lord, you have shown us what is right. Over the past few weeks, we have been reading and learning more about the problem of global slavery. We want to do more than learn. We want to act justly. We want to love mercy. We want to walk humbly with you. Please forgive the times and ways we fail you and your children around the world. And please help us to live differently - as you have shown us to. Amen.

### challenge:

Prayerfully, make a list of ways you will live differently because of what you've learned about global slavery.

## monday. dec. 20

scripture: psalm 74.19 thru 21

### freedom fact:

There are 8.4 million children in the world today who have been enslaved for purposes of forced labor, as child soldiers, for prostitution, pornography, and illicit activities such as drug smuggling

### prayer:

God of love, you do not hand a dove over to wild beasts; don't hand your children over to slavers. Protect them. Bring them freedom and hope and joy and love this Christmas. And please teach us how to live and act on their behalf. Amen.

### challenge:

Especially at this time of year, there are many things we think kids should be doing. Fighting wars, selling themselves, smuggling drugs - these are not on that list. If there are children in your life, spend some time watching them play and praying for the 8.4 million children who cannot play safely because of slavery. If there aren't children in your life, spend some time meditating on and praying through what you wish for children everywhere this time of year.