

HEAR THE KINGDOM VOICES!

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Join our four-week
devotional journey and
hear God's voice as His
good news speaks life
into some of the world's
hardest-to-reach places...

HEARING GOD'S *KINGDOM VOICES* WITH FEBA'S PARTNERS

Over four weeks, we invite you to listen deeply to the *Kingdom Voices* we hear around the time of Jesus' birth as told in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. By focusing on *Mary*, the *Shepherds*, the *Heavenly Host* and the *Magi*, we encourage you to hear how each of their stories voices aspects of God's love, joy, peace and hope.

While we traditionally associate the announcement and birth of Jesus with Advent and Christmas, the voices we hear in this extraordinary story can speak personally to us at any time of the year and at any moment in our lives.

This reflection also explores how Feba's partners and their listeners are helping to build God's kingdom today in readiness for Jesus' return at His second coming.

Alongside the biblical narrative, we highlight the ministry of four of Feba's partners. Each one shares how God's voice is calling, transforming, connecting and guiding them and their listeners to follow Jesus Christ in some of the most challenging places in the world today.

GET READY TO HEAR!

To help guide your listening, we have formed an acrostic from the word **HEAR**. With so many voices clamouring for our attention, we encourage you to find time each day when you can pause to shut out the noise of the world and follow these four simple steps:

H
HEED GOD'S
VOICE

Begin by asking God to speak to you personally through the verses assigned for each week. Each day, read each verse slowly and out loud so you can hear God's word. Is there a word or phrase that the Holy Spirit is prompting and asking you to share or act on?

A
ACT ON
WHAT YOU
HAVE READ

In James 1:22 NIV, we are told, 'Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says'. With this in mind, we invite you to take some simple steps each week to act in response to God speaking directly to you through His word and the testimonies from Feba's partners and listeners.

E
ENGAGE
WITH FEBA'S
PARTNER

This is a great opportunity to find out more about a Feba partner and the impact their ministry is having on listeners. Discover how people are responding to the gospel and turning to Christ after hearing voices proclaim God's love, joy, peace and hope over the airwaves.

R
RESPOND IN
PRAYER

Prayer fuels Feba's ministry; it's at the heart of everything we do. As well as following the prayer points for each week in this resource, we encourage you to sign up to receive our monthly *Prayer Focus*.

TO REQUEST *PRAYER FOCUS* TODAY.

Please email lifegivingmedia@feba.org.uk or call 01903 286400

As we partner together in prayer, let's do so believing that people will be inspired to follow Jesus Christ in response to what God is doing through the work of Feba's partners in some of the most hard-to-reach places in the world.

May God transform us by His Spirit into people who hear His voice and act on His word every day.

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VOICES OF LOVE

Mary



'AND THE ANGEL SAID TO HER,

"DO NOT BE AFRAID, MARY,

FOR YOU HAVE FOUND FAVOUR WITH GOD.
AND BEHOLD, YOU WILL CONCEIVE IN YOUR WOMB

AND BEAR A SON,
AND YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS."

LUKE 1:30-31 NIV

H
HEED GOD'S
VOICE

Read Luke 1:26-38

every day this week. As you read Mary's encounter with the angel Gabriel, hear how God calls and expresses His love for Mary. Listening to the

voices of love in this encounter paints a beautiful picture of both the depth of God's love for Mary and how much Mary loved, trusted and obeyed God.

Read Luke 1:46-55 and John 14:21 for further reflection and meditation on how the voices of love, humility and obedience go hand in hand and speak of God's commands and calling on our lives.

E
ENGAGE
WITH FEBE'S
PARTNER

Broadcasting in a Central Asian country, Febe's partners are thrilled when they see how the Lord works miracles among listeners like Sarah* who love God and obediently trust in His word.

WEEK ONE

Sarah grew up without a father. Miraculously in this part of the world, her mother believed in God and they both joined a local church. Sarah found new hope. But then tragedy struck. Her pastor became controlling when he discovered she had fallen in love with a young man and publicly condemned her in front of the congregation. She contemplated suicide when everyone sided with the pastor against her.

At this time Sarah began listening to our partner's *Dilkash Radio* station. She spoke to the team and was shocked that no one judged her. Instead she only heard voices of love. They helped her find a small house church. Recently, she invited the team to her wedding. Sadly, they had to decline to protect their anonymity, which must be taken very seriously. Our partner says, "All we did was show Sarah God's love. We never judged. Rather we listened and prayed for her continuously. *Dilkash Radio* is a place of refuge where any listener can hear and receive the love of our Lord".

A ACT ON WHAT YOU HAVE READ

Sarah's story with others. Reflect on how both Sarah and Mary heard voices of love that spoke God's peace into their hearts and changed their lives. Consider how you can love others as God loves us (John 13:34).

R RESPOND IN PRAYER

Pray for Feba's partners in Central Asia. Living in an Islamic country, the team faces severe opposition and threats of persecution every day. Pray that voices of love will be heard far and wide through *Dilkash Radio* and their online ministry.

Pray for Sarah that she would continue walking in obedience to God, and, like Mary, enable others to hear voices of love through her words and actions.

**Name changed for security reasons*

Open your heart and let God speak His voice of love through you, especially in response to judgement or anger. Seek and pray for opportunities to share



FEBA'S PARTNER

CENTRAL ASIA

Feba's partner in Central Asia runs several ministries including an online streaming service in an environment that is hostile to the gospel.



Hear more
from our
partner.

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VOICES OF JOY

The Shepherds



‘AND THE ANGEL SAID TO THEM,
“FEAR NOT, FOR BEHOLD,
I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY
THAT WILL BE FOR ALL THE PEOPLE.”
LUKE 2:10 NIV

H
HEED GOD'S
VOICE

Read Luke 2:8-20 every day this week. Listen with fresh ears to the joyful angelic voices announcing the birth of Jesus to the Shepherds. What the Shepherds saw empowered

them to ‘spread the word’. Despite being treated as outcasts, all who heard what the Shepherds had to say were ‘amazed’. Their joy-filled voices could not be contained.

Read Romans 15:13 and meditate on how the voices of joy we hear in the nativity story not only transformed the lives of the shepherds, but also transforms our lives today by the power of the Holy Spirit.

E
ENGAGE
WITH FEBA'S
PARTNER

Across Northeast Africa, Feba's partner uses shortwave radio, memory cards and social media to share the good news of Jesus, particularly among the *Nomad** people group. Many are nomadic and

herd sheep, goats, and camels. One of the leaders of this ministry in this highly volatile

WEEK TWO

and predominantly Muslim region is an influential Mullah. As an expert in the Koran, he listened to our partner's radio programmes and studied the Bible "to show them the foolishness of their beliefs". But the more he listened and studied, the more he became convinced that "all God's promises are true and are fulfilled in Jesus!".

And like the Shepherds, he says "Joy filled my soul. This joy compelled me to tell others about him. I was careful how I shared. There were many who tried to squash my newfound faith. But share I must. And as I did, others believed. They too were overcome with the joy of knowing the God who always keeps His promises. Though we were all maligned, threatened and at times imprisoned, we kept sharing the good news. Those who believed our message shared the good news with others. When they believed, they too shared with others. Today the message of God's faithfulness in Jesus has reached many and continues to reach more every day".

A ACT ON WHAT YOU HAVE READ

the power of the Spirit to spread the word about Christ's birth and second coming. Who does God want you to share the good news of Jesus with?

R RESPOND IN PRAYER

shepherds, felt the joy of the Lord filling his heart and compelling him to tell others about Jesus.

Pray that God's joy will be heard in your voice this week in all you say and do for Him.

**Name changed for security reasons*

Ask God to fill you afresh with the joy of the Holy Spirit. May the joyful response of the Shepherds inspire you to go out in

Pray for Feba's partner sharing the gospel among the *Nomad* people group. Praise God for the Mullah who, like the



FEBA'S PARTNER

NOMAD

Feba's partner in Northeast Africa broadcasts a daily radio programme on shortwave and via SD cards sharing news, health advice and the gospel.



Hear more
from our
partner.

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VOICES OF PEACE

The Heavenly Host

"GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST,
AND ON EARTH
PEACE AMONG THOSE
WITH WHOM HE IS PLEASED!"
LUKE 2:14 ESV

WEEK THREE

H
HEED GOD'S
VOICE

Read Luke 2: 13-14

every day. As you meditate on these 'glorious' words sung to the Shepherds by the angel of the Lord and the Heavenly Host, note how God's peace at this

first Advent is only promised to those who are pleasing to God – those who are willing to repent and put their faith in His Son, Jesus Christ.

Read Ephesians 2:14-18 and Romans

4:25-5:2. Reflect on the reason that God sent His Son into the world to bring peace between Him and sinful people.

E
ENGAGE
WITH FEBA'S
PARTNER

From studios in Timbuktu, Feba's partners at *Radio T* produce gospel-based programmes that promote peace, speaking in appropriate ways for an Islamic audience. Using local

commercial FM stations in the north, the team is able to broadcast programmes into areas where Christian workers cannot go.

The response from Muslim listeners to hearing voices of peace over the radio has been extraordinary. One group of listeners said, “Now we are convinced that your gospel is worth proclaiming, because it exhorts us to love God and neighbour. Whoever listens to you will behave well like you”.

The calling on the team at *Radio T* is similar to the angels in the nativity story – heralding God’s message of joy, salvation and peace to communities that have suffered from years of war, conflict and strife. They thank God that their programmes reach far and wide across ‘no-go areas’ controlled by jihadists linked to Al-Qaeda.

Our partners’ message remains the same: “Christ is our peace and it is He that we proclaim. Only God’s peace makes it possible to live in the midst of this chaos with a heart at peace” (Proverbs 14:30).



you like He spoke through them so that those you encounter hear His voice of peace this week.



Pray for 17-year-old Alkarimatt* who has recently accepted Christ. With no local church, he relies on Christian broadcasts to grow in his faith. His parents have noticed a change in him. He says, “I feel a peace and joy I can’t explain”.

**Name changed for security reasons*

Ask God to use you as a channel of His peace. Look for ways to share insights from the message of the angels in Luke’s gospel. May the Lord speak through



FEBA’S PARTNER

MALI

Feba’s partner in Mali broadcasts the gospel on *Radio T* through FM stations in the north where it is extremely dangerous to be a follower of Jesus Christ.



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from our
partner.

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VOICES OF HOPE

The Magi



WEEK FOUR

"WHERE IS HE WHO HAS BEEN BORN
KING OF THE JEWS?
FOR WE SAW HIS STAR WHEN IT ROSE
AND HAVE COME TO WORSHIP HIM."
MATTHEW 2:2 ESV

H
HEED GOD'S
VOICE

Read Matthew 2:1-12

every day this week. Little is known about the Magi except they were 'from the east'. Their determination to be guided by the star shows their hopefulness in

finding 'the one who has been born King of the Jews', despite the dangers their journey would entail. These men sounded 'voices of hope' on their journey to find Jesus.

Read Isaiah 7:14 and Isaiah 9:2. Reflect on the prophetic words of hope that foretold the coming of Jesus.

E
ENGAGE
WITH FEBA'S
PARTNER

Feba's mission partners in Yemen share Christ's message of hope across the Arabian Peninsula. Years of war have devastated the country, leaving over 24 million people at risk of hunger and disease.

The *Yemen Project* broadcasts daily programmes on shortwave radio as well as online content for Yemeni Arabic speakers. They lift up marginalised groups such as women, children and the Muhamasheen – a tribal group excluded from the Yemeni population and regularly discriminated against. The broadcasts are a real beacon of hope.

One particular family heard and accepted Christ's message of hope on the radio. When the husband's father heard this, he planned to put his son and daughter-in-law in jail and take away their two children. Similar to the Magi, the Lord warned the couple, through a church member, telling them to leave immediately for a safe place. The Lord guided this family with hope and protection.

A ACT ON WHAT YOU HAVE READ

Whatever you might be facing this week, consider how Paul's words in Romans 5:3-5 ESV might help you to see challenges and setbacks as opportunities for God to produce endurance, character and hope in your life: '... we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.' Why not journal what hope in God means to you? Perhaps share it with someone else who needs encouragement and strength.

R RESPOND IN PRAYER

Pray for the gospel message to reach across the war-weary population of Yemen through the voices of hope from the *Yemen Project*.

Pray for the Christian family now living in hiding in Yemen. Pray that the husband's father's heart will be receptive to hearing Christ's voice of hope.

As you reflect on the hope of the Magi and our partners in Yemen, read and consider the words in Isaiah 40:31 NIV, including, "but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength..."



FEBA'S PARTNER

YEMEN

Feba's partners in Yemen broadcast the gospel on daily shortwave programmes as well as online content and via social media channels.



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from our
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MAY YOU HEAR GOD'S LOVING VOICE EVERY DAY.

We hope that hearing these *Kingdom Voices* have brought you closer to Jesus. If you would like more information about Feba and how you can support our partners in the mission field, please contact us. We'd be delighted to hear from you!

We are a Christian mission agency creatively using radio and other audio media to inspire people in hard-to-reach places to follow Jesus Christ. We work with partners across Africa, Asia and the Middle East, with a particular emphasis on contexts that are 'closed' or where it is difficult to be a Christian.

Our heart is to be close to the listener, so the broadcast material is always contextually relevant, addressing the interests and needs of local people. Our partners seek to engage and build relationships with listeners through various follow-up channels. Together, we seek to support the work of the local church in its efforts to proclaim and demonstrate God's love.

If you would like more information about Feba and how you can support our partners in the mission field, please contact us. We'd be delighted to hear from you!

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*For the sake of security, some of the real names of people, projects or programmes have been changed or omitted. Stock images have also been used.



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