

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS: LESSONS FROM BUDDY

A Weekly Devotional

WEEK 2



Day 8: "You're More of an Elf Than Anyone I Ever Met"

Buddy's dad tells him, "You're more of an elf than anyone I ever met," not because of his height or toy-making skills, but because of his heart. Buddy's unshakable kindness, cheer, and belief in others shine brighter than his differences.

This reminds us that what truly matters to God isn't our outward appearance or accomplishments but the state of our hearts. In 1 Samuel 16:7, God says, "The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Sometimes we feel we're not enough—too messy, too flawed, too human. But God sees us as His beloved children, full of potential and worth. Today, ask yourself: What are the qualities in my heart that reflect God's love to the world?

Prayer: Lord, help me to see myself the way You see me—beloved and valuable. Strengthen my heart to reflect Your love and grace. Amen.



Day 9: "I'm Singing, I'm in a Store, and I'm Singing"

When Buddy joyfully sings in the middle of a store, he isn't worried about who's watching. He's fully himself, living out his happiness without hesitation. It's bold, it's honest, and it's freeing.

How often do we hold back from being our true selves? Whether it's fear of judgment or trying to fit in, we can sometimes hide the person God made us to be. Galatians 1:10 reminds us, "Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ."

Today, embrace the freedom to be fully you—the unique, joyful, and imperfect creation God delights in. And if the chance arises, maybe even sing in a store.

Prayer: Father, free me from the fear of what others think. Help me live boldly and authentically, reflecting the person You made me to be. Amen.



Day 10: "Son of a Nutcracker!"

Buddy's exclaimed "Son of a nutcracker!" after being hit by a snowball is both funny and relatable. It's a burst of frustration, a very human moment.

We all have days when life throws unexpected "snowballs" at us—an unkind word, a disappointment, a mistake. It's tempting to let those moments ruin the day. But in Philippians 4:13, we're reminded: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

When the snowballs come, God is there to help us respond with grace and patience. Today, take a moment to breathe through any frustrations and ask God for the strength to let them go.

Prayer: Lord, help me find patience and grace in frustrating moments. Thank You for walking with me through all life's challenges. Amen.



Day 11: "First We'll Make Snow Angels..."

Buddy's plan to make snow angels, eat cookie dough, and snuggle is a reminder of the simple joys in life. He doesn't rush through the day; he celebrates it.

In Luke 10:38-42, Jesus praises Mary for sitting at His feet, listening, and being present, while Martha is "worried and upset about many things." We live in a world that glorifies busyness, but God calls us to rest and enjoy His presence.

Today, take time to slow down. Do something simple and fun—watch the snow fall, bake cookies, or spend time with a loved one. Let God's peace fill your heart in the stillness.

Prayer: Father, teach me to rest in You. Help me find joy in the simple moments and be fully present in this season. Amen.



Day 12: "Raised by Elves"

Buddy's story of being raised by elves is a tale of belonging. Though he feels different, he's always known love, joy, and acceptance in the North Pole.

We all long for a place where we belong. The good news is that God offers us just that. In Ephesians 1:5, we're told, "He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His

pleasure and will.” We are part of God’s family—not because of anything we’ve done, but because of His great love for us.

Today, take comfort in knowing you belong to God. Reflect on how you can share that sense of belonging with someone else who might feel left out.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for adopting me into Your family. Help me live as someone who belongs to You, and show me how to extend Your love to others. Amen.



Day 13: "I'm in Love, I'm in Love, and I Don't Care Who Knows!"

Buddy’s bold proclamation of love for Jovie is sweet and unashamed. It’s a reminder of the joy that comes from loving openly and freely.

Do we approach our love for God with the same enthusiasm? In Matthew 22:37, Jesus tells us, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” Loving God isn’t something to be hidden—it’s meant to be lived out in every part of our lives.

Today, think about ways you can boldly live out your love for God. Maybe it’s sharing your faith, showing kindness, or offering a prayer for someone in need.

Prayer: Father, teach me to love You boldly and openly. Let my life reflect the joy and freedom of being loved by You. Amen.



Day 14: "I Just Like to Whisper Too"

Buddy’s playful whisper in a department store, after declaring his excitement loudly, shows us the value of balance—sometimes joy is loud, and other times, it’s quiet. This reminds us of how God often works in whispers, in the still, small moments of our lives.

In 1 Kings 19:11-12, Elijah encounters God not in the wind, earthquake, or fire but in a gentle whisper. Sometimes, we look for God in the big, dramatic moments and miss Him speaking softly to our hearts.

Today, take time to listen for God’s whispers. Quiet your mind and heart, and let His still, small voice guide you.

Prayer: Father, help me to slow down and quiet my soul. Teach me to listen for Your whispers and recognize Your presence in the stillness. Amen.