



Word Accomplishes God's Purpose (Advent 3)

December 12, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of restoration and new life, when Israel had lost everything, you reminded them they still had one thing: your word. Help us to speak and listen for your word so that it might accomplish its purpose. Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*<sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:10-11)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

God's people were exiled and had lost everything—except God's word. As long as they continued to speak and hear the word of God, that word would accomplish its purpose—the restoration of Israel one day.



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What kinds of words do you speak? Are your words angry, gentle, spiteful, generous, bitter, meaningful? What do your words say about you?

How does a word “accomplish that which I purpose”? (Go out into the world and return full.) Just how powerful are words?

For the littles: Do you like to talk a lot or a little?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God bless your words going out and coming in. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Create a “bitter words” jar. Decide on an amount of money each member of the household will put in for every time they swear, speak words that sting, are bitter, or are ungrateful. Decide together how you will use the money collected—perhaps give it away!



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

- Sunday, Isaiah 55:1-11, Word Accomplishes God's Purpose
- Monday, Isaiah 40:1-11, God's People Are Comforted
- Tuesday, Isaiah 53:2-12, The Suffering Servant
- Wednesday, Isaiah 57:14-21, A Promise of Help and Healing
- Thursday, Isaiah 59:1-8, Injustice and Oppression to Be Punished
- Friday, Isaiah 61:1-11, The Good News of Deliverance
- Saturday, Isaiah 65:17-25, The Glorious New Creation