

December 7

Numbers 6:24-26 (CEB)

The Lord bless you and protect you. ²⁵ The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. ²⁶ The Lord lift up his face to you and grant you peace.

The Israelite people have just left Egypt and are at Sinai when God tells Moses to ask Aaron to give the people this blessing. It will be many years before they reach the promised land and the journey will not be easy. Quite possibly the Israelites were afraid and worried about their future and that of their children. They had escaped slavery in Egypt, but they weren't out of the woods yet. They had dark times ahead, but God's blessing was sent to remind the people that he would be with them and never turn away from them.

Dark times take on many different shapes in our lives. They can manifest themselves as illness, job loss, even depression. But God is with us and will not turn away from us. I believe God uses us, his people, to demonstrate his love and care for his people. What an awesome thought that we can each be the hands, heart and feet of God in our daily lives. This Advent season, as we attempt to shine a light in the darkness, consider how you can be God's torch bearer for others and share his blessing.

~ Hannah Holliway