To reach the final scene, where you and I live peacefully with God forever, someone had to pay the cost. Jesus paid that cost in full. In the end, when he rose from the dead, there were no false alarms, fuses failing, or burnt bulbs. Instead, there was a light that broke through the darkness.

"THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS HAS NOT OVERCOME IT" (JOHN 1:5).

Jesus, the pure light of the world, was shining bright for all to see again. **Jesus paid for peace in full.**

UNBOX YOUR PEACE TODAY.

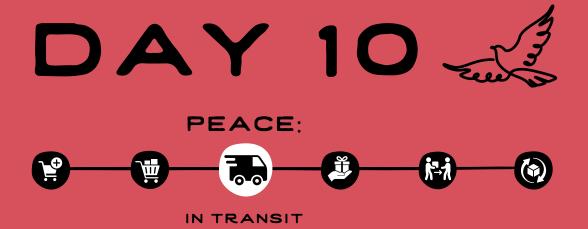
CHALLENGE DAY 9

PEACE: CHECKOUT

What was the cost for Jesus to bring peace? Your response to Jesus's sacrifice is to shine that peace into the world. Spend some time today and go out and look at some Christmas lights. As you do, remind yourself and those you are with that Jesus is the light of this world.

OPTIONAL CHALLENGE

If you haven't already, put some lights out this year. Perhaps it's something outside, a fireplace, or a candle inside. Shining lights in the darkness is not only a great reminder of what Jesus has done for us, but it's also a reminder of how he has called us to be lights in this world today.



"COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST" (MATTHEW 11:28).

MAXED OUT



Despite boasting a nation with a surging economy, comfortable homes, stocked pantry shelves, shiny new inventions, and unsurpassed communication technology, the USA consistently ranks among the world's top 10 most stressed nations. The Advent season is one of, if not the most stressful.

It's important to note first and foremost that the Bible never promises that you won't have stress, even if you believe in and follow Jesus. Pursuing an entirely problem-free life is not a godly pursuit, nor is it even a good goal. However, God promises us that we can have peace in the middle of difficulty.

While it's natural to feel some anxiety, it's important to remember that you don't have to be as stressed as you are. You have the power to cut unnecessary trouble out of your life. But where would you begin? Let's explore some strategies together.