An Advent of HOPE

Most Advent Calendars present us with a gift each day leading up to Christmas. This **Advent of HOPE** Calendar is, instead, a Gratitude and Giving countdown to Christmas.

The purpose of the Advent of HOPE is two-fold:

- **1) to remind us of the gifts we already have** the simplest things in life that bring us little bits of HOPE every day, which we often take for granted ; and
- 2) to encourage us to take positive action in this case, to collect a small monetary gift to help bring HOPE to our neighbours in need who do not have access to many of these simple things.

Each daily question is a reminder of a 'gift' most of us enjoy every day. *Each item is also an example something that our clients at Streets Alive Mission do not have access to on a daily basis.*

If you are able to say YES to that day's question, set aside \$5 for that day (*or* \$2, *or* \$1, *whatever works for your budget*). In the 24 days leading up to Christmas, those daily small amounts will grow into a larger sum, that, when donated to the programs at Streets Alive Mission, will help to provide access to many of these items for our clients - your neighbours - and will bring HOPE to those in greatest need right here in Lethbridge.

Day 1: Were you able to brush your teeth this morning? Day 2: Do you have a means of transportation? **Day 3**: Did you have a warm bed to sleep in? Day 4: Do you have a hat or scarf to wear when it's cold outside? **Day 5**: Did you have access to a winter coat? Day 6: Did you have a clean pair of socks to put on this morning? **Day 7**: Do you have shampoo/conditioner or soap? **Day 8**: Were you able to use a bathroom anytime you needed to today? **Day 9**: Did you have access to a telephone? **Day 10**: Were you warm last night? **Day 11**: Did you have a meal today? Day 12: Do you have a pair of gloves or mittens?

Day 13: Do you have access to a TV? Day 14: Are you able to purchase Christmas gifts this year? **Day 15**: Do you have a Christmas tree? **Day 16**: Do you have access to a computer? **Day 17**: Do you get a Christmas meal? **Day 18**: Do you have a mailing address? **Day 19**: Are you getting a paycheck this month? Day 20: Do you have more than one pair of underwear? Day 21: Were you able to sit on furniture in your home? **Day 22**: Were you able to go grocery shopping? **Day 23**: Do you have clean clothes? Day 24: Do you have electricity and hot water

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