



ARISE AND SHINE:
LOOK UP!

ISAIAH 60:4

If you want to see the most abnormal and uncomfortable Advent ever, just look at the first one.

In spite of how good we have it compared to the first Advent, we struggle with having our gaze locked downward.

Advent characters with eyes stuck
downward suddenly able to look up

» Zechariah

» Mary

» Joseph

» Wise Men

» Shepherds

I. Lift up your eyes

A. Away from doom and gloom

B. Lift your eyes to something higher.

C. Turn your eyes onto Jesus who remains steady and victorious.

II. Look all around.

A. Find the bigger picture.

B. God is beautifully at work in the world and in you as he was in Mary.

III. Look all around and see.

A. When you look all around you will see God.

B. And God is still up to his good work.

C. The real problem with looking down is we lose sight of God.

IV. When you look up and see God you will be RADIANT.

What we look at grows.


V. When you look up your heart will thrill
and exalt.

A. Heart here means your inner
disposition.

B. When we look up God says our heart will
grow and expand.

CHRIST in YOU...
the HOPE of GLORY

Colossians 1:27

A lion and a lamb are shown in profile, facing each other against a black background. The lion is on the left, with its mane glowing in a golden-brown light. The lamb is on the right, looking directly at the camera with a soft, white woolly texture.

reach • teach • care • praise • blaze