



“Thanks be unto God for his
unspeakable gift.”

—2 Corinthians 9:15

DEVOTION:

If You're Lucky, You'll Get Eighty-One Christmases

If you're lucky,
you'll get eighty-one Christmases—
not eighty-one the same,
not even close.

There's the first one you remember,
wonder bright and unearned.

The one after a wedding,
when “home” becomes a promise made before God.

The one with a baby,
where you understand the miracle
a little more clearly than before.

The first after you move out,
when faith becomes your own,
and you learn to carry Christmas
inside you, not just around you.

There's the Christmas after a breakup,
when hope feels fragile—
and Christ meets you in the quiet.

The one after someone dies,
when grief sits beside the manger,
and you cling to the promise
that death is not the end.

The Christmas you feel lost,
and the one where joy surprises you again.

Because Christmas is not the lights
or the table or the noise—
it is God choosing to come near.

Born into ordinary hardship.
Present in every season.

If you're lucky,
you'll spend a lifetime learning
that Christ arrives every year—
in joy, in sorrow, in waiting—
faithful, unchanging,
the same Savior
in every Christmas you're given.