

*With* **JESUS**  
a 24-day advent guide

**SEAN DREHER**

**Copyright © 2024 by Sean Dreher Ministries**

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law.

**Hello,**

As we enter the Advent season, I've created this guide as a companion to your Jesus journey—a simple, intentional way to slow down and be *with Jesus*.

Each day follows a rhythm designed to center your heart and mind on the hope, peace, joy, and love that Jesus brings. Here's the flow:

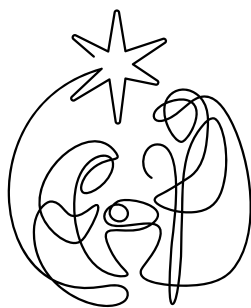
1. **Read:** A powerful scripture to guide you each day.
2. **Pause:** A short insight to settle the Word into your soul.
3. **Reflect:** A question to sit with to help put the Word into practice.
4. **Pray:** A prayer to align your heart with His.
5. **Worship:** A song to set your hopes on things eternal.

*Note: A few are not the artist's original songs, so check YouTube if they aren't available on streaming platforms.*

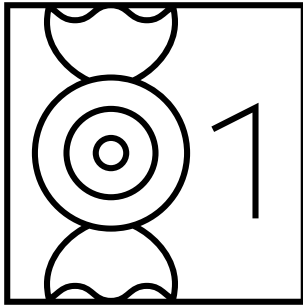
May this guide draw you deeper into the heart of the One who is Christmas.

**Grace & Peace,**

*SD*



week one  
**Jesus & Hope**



day one  
**hope in the darkness**

**Read: Isaiah 9:2 (NIV)**

“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.”

**Pause:**

In a world of uncertainty, Isaiah’s prophecy reminds us that Jesus is the light breaking through our darkness. His arrival brought hope to a weary world, and that same hope is alive today. No matter how dark life may seem, Jesus is the light that leads us forward.

**Reflect:**

What areas of your life feel heavy or uncertain, and how can Jesus’ light bring hope to them?

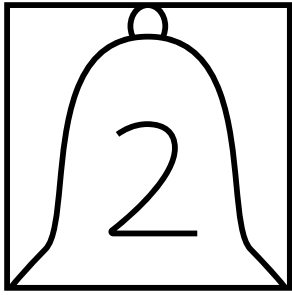
**Pray:**

Lord, thank You for being my light in dark times. Fill me with hope and help me trust Your promises. Amen.

**Worship:**

Oh Come Oh Come Emmanuel—Tomme  
Profitt





day two  
**God with us**

**Read: Matthew 1:23 (NIV)**

“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

**Pause:**

Immanuel means God with us—not distant, not indifferent, but present in every moment. In a post-Christian culture, where God is often viewed as outdated or irrelevant, the incarnation reminds us that He chose to step into humanity’s story. He is still with us, offering His presence amid the noise of life.

**Reflect:**

How can you be more aware of God’s presence in your life today?

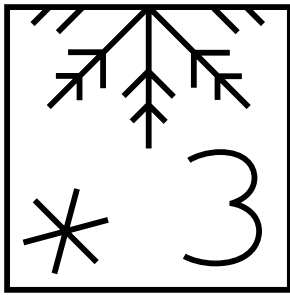
**Pray:**

Immanuel, thank You for being with me. Help me to slow down and notice You in my daily rhythms. Amen.

**Worship:**

Emmanuel—Norman Hutchins





day three  
**a thrill of hope**

**Read: Romans 15:13 (NIV)**

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

**Pause:**

True hope comes from God. It’s not based on fleeting circumstances but on His unchanging promises. Preparing our hearts for Advent reminds us that our trust in Him allows hope to overflow, even in the most challenging seasons.

**Reflect:**

What is one promise of God you can hold onto today to strengthen your hope?

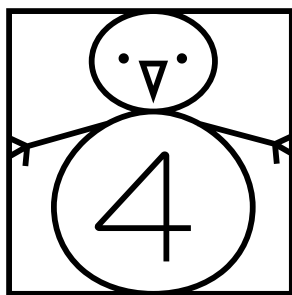
**Pray:**

God of hope, fill my heart with Your peace and joy. Help me to trust You fully and live in the overflow of Your hope. Amen.

**Worship:**

Oh Holy Night—Tomme Profitt





day four  
**waiting in hope**

**Read: Psalm 130:5-6 (NIV)**

“I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.”

**Pause:**

Advent is a season of waiting, but it's not passive—it's active and expectant. Just as watchmen wait for the morning light, we wait with hope for the fulfillment of God's promises. Waiting is an act of trust in the One who never fails.

**Reflect:**

How can you cultivate hope while waiting for God's timing?

**Pray:**

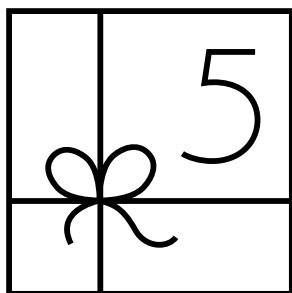
As I wait for You, strengthen my hope and trust in Your faithfulness. Help me see Your goodness even while I am waiting.  
Amen.

**Worship:**

Promises—Maverick City







day five  
**the source of hope**

**Read: Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)**

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

**Pause:**

God’s plans for us are rooted in His goodness and love. Advent reminds us that His purposes are not to harm us but to bring us hope and a future. In a season of uncertainty, we are invited to trust the One who holds our future securely in His hands.

**Reflect:**

How does knowing that God has a plan for your life give you hope for the future?

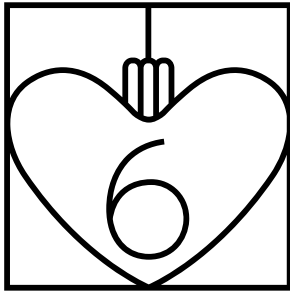
**Pray:**

Father, thank You for the plans You have for me. Help me to trust in Your good purposes and to find hope in Your promises. Amen.

**Worship:**

Firm Foundation—Chandler Moore & Cody Carnes





day six  
**anchored in hope**

**Read: Hebrews 6:19 (NIV)**

“We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain.”

**Pause:**

Jesus is our anchor, holding us steady when life feels chaotic. His hope is firm and secure, unshaken by the storms of life. As we reflect on His coming, we are reminded that our hope is not in circumstances but in the One who is faithful.

**Reflect:**

What storms or uncertainties are you facing, and how can you anchor your soul in the hope of Christ?

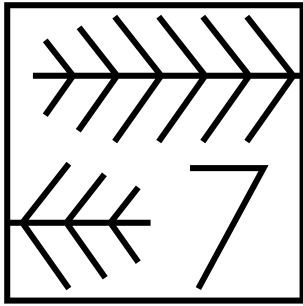
**Pray:**

Jesus, thank You for being the anchor of my soul. Help me to hold onto You when life feels overwhelming, trusting in Your steady presence. Amen.

**Worship:**

On Christ the Solid Rock—Magen Thurman





day seven  
**a living hope**

**Read: 1 Peter 1:3 (NIV)**

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”

**Pause:**

Our hope is alive because Jesus is alive. Through His resurrection, we have a new birth into a living hope that can never be extinguished. Advent invites us to celebrate this hope and share it with a world desperate for good news.

**Reflect:**

How does the reality of Jesus’ resurrection give you hope in your daily life?

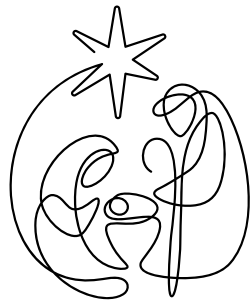
**Pray:**

Lord, thank You for the living hope I have through Your resurrection. Help me to live in that hope and share it with others. Amen.

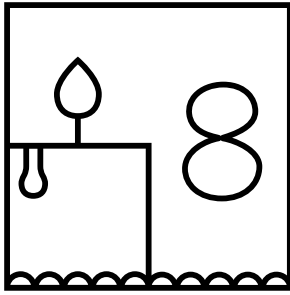
**Worship:**

I Belong to Jesus—Paul & Hannah McClure





week two  
**Jesus & Peace**



day eight  
**peace in the storm**

**Read: John 14:27 (NIV)**

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

**Pause:**

The peace Jesus offers is not like the fleeting calm the world gives. It’s a lasting, soul-deep peace that sustains us even in life’s storms. Advent reminds us to let go of fear and embrace the unshakable peace that only He provides.

**Reflect:**

What is troubling your heart right now, and how can you invite Jesus’ peace into that situation?

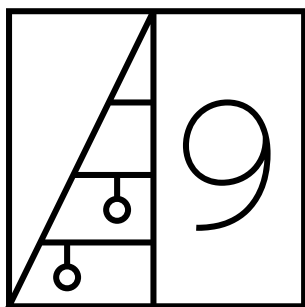
**Pray:**

Jesus, thank You for the peace that only You can give. Calm my fears and steady my heart as I trust in You. Amen.

**Worship:**

Peace Be Still—Lauren Daigle





day nine  
**the prince of peace**

**Read: Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)**

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

**Pause:**

Jesus is the Prince of Peace, bringing reconciliation between God and humanity. In a divided world, His peace bridges gaps and mends what is broken. Advent invites us to rest under His reign and extend His peace to others.

**Reflect:**

Where in your life do you need to allow Jesus' peace to reign?

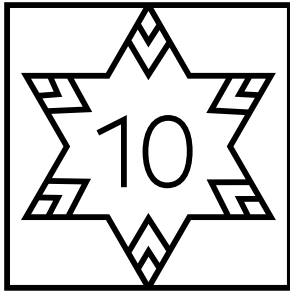
**Pray:**

Prince of Peace, bring Your harmony into my life. Teach me to live in Your peace and to share it with others. Amen.

**Worship:**

Peace—Radiant City Music





day ten  
**the peacemakers**

**Read: Matthew 5:9 (NIV)**

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

**Pause:**

Being a peacemaker doesn't mean avoiding conflict—it means working to bring reconciliation and healing. Advent calls us to follow Jesus' example in a culture prone to division by actively seeking peace in our relationships and communities.

**Reflect:**

Who do you know that needs the gift of peace, and how can you be a peacemaker in that situation?

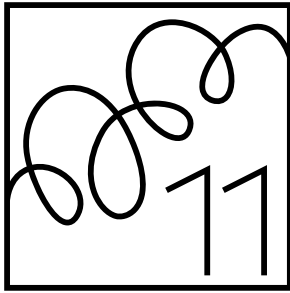
**Pray:**

Lord, help me be a peacemaker, bringing Your love and healing wherever needed. Use me as an instrument of Your peace. Amen.

**Worship:**

Break Every Chain—Tasha Cobbs Leonard





day eleven  
**peace beyond  
understanding**

**Read: Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)**

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

**Pause:**

The peace God offers is beyond human understanding—it guards our hearts and minds even in the most anxious moments. Advent invites us to lay our burdens at His feet and trust Him to fill us with His supernatural peace.

**Reflect:**

What anxieties do you need to release to God today?

**Pray:**

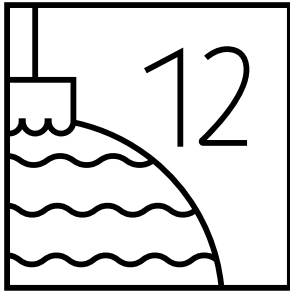
Father, I lay my worries before You. Guard my heart and mind with Your peace, and teach me to trust You fully. Amen.

**Worship:**

Peace—Anna Golden







day twelve  
**peace on earth**

**Read: Luke 2:14 (NIV)**

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

**Pause:**

At Jesus’ birth, the angels proclaimed peace on earth. This peace is not just the absence of conflict but the presence of God’s wholeness. Advent reminds us that peace is not only something we receive but also something we bring into the world.

**Reflect:**

How can you bring the peace of Christ into your home, workplace, or community this week?

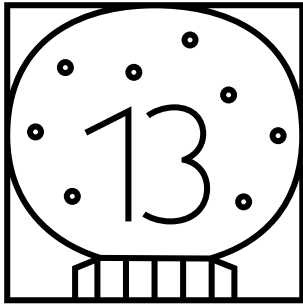
**Pray:**

Lord, let Your peace flow through me. Help me to bring Your wholeness to the people and places around me. Amen.

**Worship:**

Silent Night—Hillsong





day thirteen  
**peace & reconciliation**

**Read: Colossians 1:19-20 (NIV)**

“For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”

**Pause:**

Through Jesus, God reconciled the world’s brokenness. Advent reminds us that this reconciliation is not just for eternity but for today. His peace transforms us and calls us to be agents of reconciliation in a divided world.

**Reflect:**

Where do you see brokenness in your life or relationships, and how can Christ’s peace bring restoration?

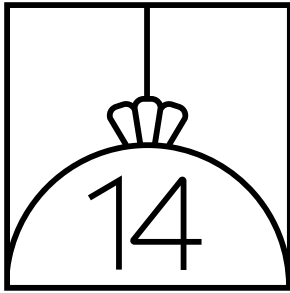
**Pray:**

Jesus, thank You for making peace through Your sacrifice. Reconcile what is broken in my life and use me to bring restoration to others. Amen.

**Worship:**

The Blessing—Kari Jobe & Cody Carnes





day fourteen  
**let peace rule**

**Read: Colossians 3:15 (NIV)**

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.”

**Pause:**

Peace isn't just something we experience; it's something we allow to rule in our hearts. When Christ's peace governs our thoughts and actions, we live differently—grateful, grounded, and united with others. Advent invites us to let His peace take the lead.

**Reflect:**

What would it look like for Christ's peace to rule in your heart today?

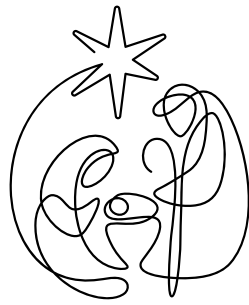
**Pray:**

Lord, I invite Your peace to rule in my heart. Help me to live in gratitude and unity as I follow Your lead. Amen.

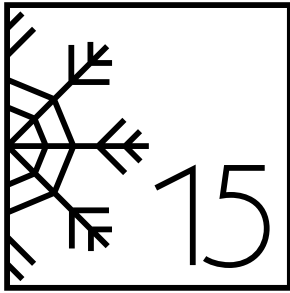
**Worship:**

Oceans—Hillsong





week three  
**Jesus & Joy**



day fifteen  
**joy to the world**

**Read: Luke 2:10 (NIV)**

“But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.’”

**Pause:**

The birth of Jesus was announced as good news of great joy, not for some, but for all. Advent reminds us that joy is not dependent on our circumstances but rooted in the good news of Jesus’ arrival and His love for the whole world.

**Reflect:**

Who do you know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus this Advent season, and how can you share it with them?

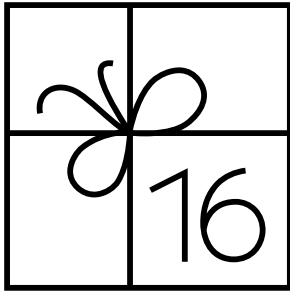
**Pray:**

Lord, thank You for the joy that comes from knowing You. Help me share your good news with those who need it most. Amen.

**Worship:**

Joy—Housefires





day sixteen  
**rejoice always**

**Read: Philippians 4:4 (NIV)**

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!”

**Pause:**

Joy in the Lord is not circumstantial; it’s a choice to celebrate His goodness, no matter what we face. Advent challenges us to cultivate joy by focusing on God’s faithfulness and His unchanging promises.

**Reflect:**

What is one reason you can rejoice in the Lord today?

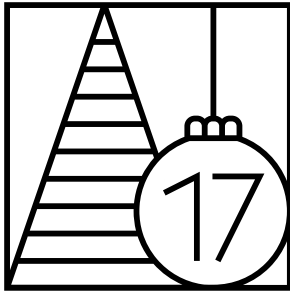
**Pray:**

Father, thank You for being my source of joy. Teach me to always rejoice in You, even in challenges. Amen.

**Worship:**

Joy in the Morning—Tauren Wells & Elevation Worship





day seventeen  
**complete joy**

**Read: John 15:11 (NIV)**

“I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.”

**Pause:**

Jesus desires for us to experience His joy, which completes and fulfills us. Advent reminds us that this joy is found in abiding in Him, living in His love, and following His ways.

**Reflect:**

What would it look like to experience the complete joy of abiding in Jesus this season?

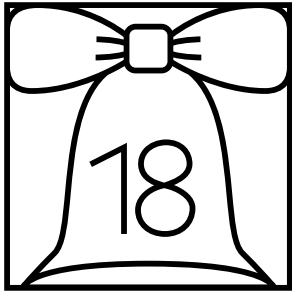
**Pray:**

Jesus, thank You for offering me complete joy in You. Help me to remain in Your love and follow Your ways with gladness. Amen.

**Worship:**

Joyful Joyful—TRIBL





day eighteen  
**strengthened by joy**

**Read: Nehemiah 8:10 (NIV)**

“Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

**Pause:**

God’s joy isn’t just a feeling; it’s a source of strength. Advent invites us to rely on the joy of the Lord to sustain us, even in moments of difficulty. His joy lifts our spirits and renews our strength.

**Reflect:**

How can you lean on the joy of the Lord as your strength today?

**Pray:**

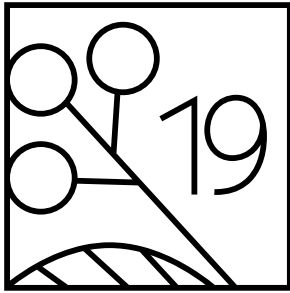
Lord, thank You for the strength that comes from Your joy. Help me to draw on Your joy when I feel weak or weary. Amen.

**Worship:**

It’s Working Todd Dulaney & Hezekiah Walker







day nineteen  
**joy in His presence**

**Read: Psalm 16:11 (NIV)**

“You make known to me the path of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence,  
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.”

**Pause:**

True joy is found in the presence of God. Advent reminds us to prioritize time with Him, allowing His presence to fill us with joy that cannot be taken away.

**Reflect:**

How can you intentionally spend time in God’s presence this week to experience His joy?

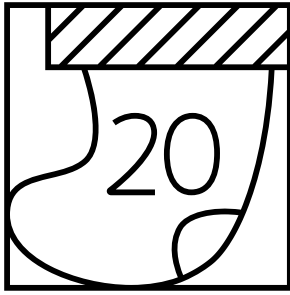
**Pray:**

Lord, thank You for the joy of being in Your presence. Help me to seek You daily and find delight in spending time with You. Amen.

**Worship:**

Lover of my Soul—Jonathan McReynolds





day twenty  
**joyful worship**

**Read: Psalm 100:1-2 (NIV)**

“Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
Worship the Lord with gladness; come  
before him with joyful songs.”

**Pause:**

Worship is an expression of our joy in the Lord. As we celebrate Advent, we are invited to lift our voices and hearts in joyful worship, praising the One who came to save us.

**Reflect:**

What is one way you can express your joy in worship today?

**Pray:**

Lord, I come before You with joyful praise.  
Fill my heart with gladness as I worship  
You this season. Amen.

**Worship:**

Your Love—Kimberly Michelle





day twenty-one  
**eternal joy**

**Read:** Isaiah 35:10 (NIV)

“And those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.”

**Pause:**

The joy we experience through Jesus is everlasting—it is not limited to this life but extends into eternity. Advent points us toward the day when sorrow and sighing will be no more, and we will be overtaken by gladness and joy in God’s presence.

**Reflect:**

How does the promise of everlasting joy give you hope and encouragement today?

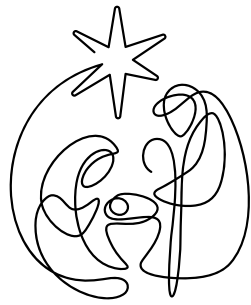
**Pray:**

Lord, thank You for the eternal joy that awaits me in Your presence. Help me to live in light of that joy every day. Amen.

**Worship:**

Refiner—Maverick City





week four  
**Jesus & Love**



day twenty-two  
**the greatest love**

**Read: John 3:16 (NIV)**

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

**Pause:**

Advent is the ultimate love story—God giving His Son to save the world. This love is unconditional, sacrificial, and eternal. It calls us to receive His love and reflect it to others.

**Reflect:**

How can you reflect God’s love to someone this week?

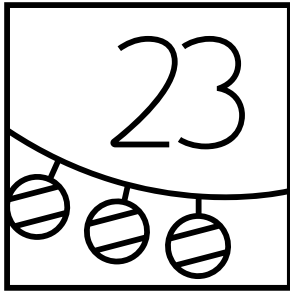
**Pray:**

Father, thank You for loving me so deeply. Help me to love others with the same sacrificial love You’ve shown me. Amen.

**Worship:**

Jesus is the Reason for the Season—Kirk Franklin





day twenty-three  
**a new command**

**Read: John 13:34 (NIV)**

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”

**Pause:**

Jesus’ love is our example—a love that is selfless, forgiving, and unending. Advent reminds us to go beyond words and love others in action, reflecting the heart of Christ in all we do.

**Reflect:**

What is one specific way you can show Christlike love to someone today?

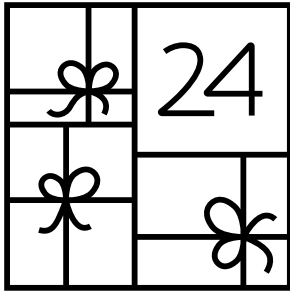
**Pray:**

Jesus, thank You for showing me what real love looks like. Help me to love others as You have loved me. Amen.

**Worship:**

My Heart Your Throne—Daphne Richardson





day twenty-four  
**love that never fails**

**Read: 1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV)**

“And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.”

**Pause:**

Of all the gifts we celebrate at Advent, love is the greatest. It never fails, never gives up, and never runs out. Reflecting on Jesus’ birth, we are reminded that love is the foundation of His mission and the heart of Advent.

**Reflect:**

How can you make love the foundation of your actions and relationships this Christmas?

**Pray:**

Lord, thank You for Your love that never fails. Teach me to live in that love and make it the foundation of my life. Amen.

**Worship:**

Reckless Love—Cory Asbury



Inspired by Eugene Peterson's paraphrase of Matthew 7:24-25 MSG, **Sean Dreher Ministries** is a nonprofit organization committed to addressing one of the greatest needs of our time: helping people work the words of Jesus into their everyday lives. We accomplish this mission through transformational content, churches, coaching, and charity.

To learn more, visit [seandreher.com](http://seandreher.com).



