

# *Advent*

A WAITING NATION

# When God Says Yes, And

December 27th, 2015

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

...The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:1-5, 9-14









Св. Никола

ST. NICHOLAS

“Till He appeared and the soul felt it's worth.”

Humans don't like paradoxes

Logos? Yes! And...

YHWH? Yes! And...

Flesh? Yes! And...



The second rule of improvisation is not only to say yes, but YES, AND.  
You are supposed to agree and then add something of your own.

If I start a scene with “I can’t believe it’s so hot in here,” and you just say,  
“Yeah...” we’re kind of at a standstill.

But if I say, “I can’t believe it’s so hot in here,” and you say, “What did you expect? We’re in hell.” Or if I say, “I can’t believe it’s so hot in here,” and you say, “Yes, this can’t be good for the wax figures.” Or if I say, “I can’t believe it’s so hot in here,” and you say, “I told you we shouldn’t have crawled into this dog’s mouth,” now we’re getting somewhere.-- Tina Fey,  
Bossypants

“From a manger in Bethlehem, God leaned over the whole world and said-- ‘It’s your move.’”



There is a time for everything,  
and a season for every activity under the heavens:  
a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot,  
a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,  
a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,  
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,  
a time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away,  
a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,  
a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

“I’ve been learning that real life exists within several layers of complexity. There is rarely just one side or one emotion. There’s a depth there- an opportunity as we move along, each on our own journey, to simultaneously grasp different facets of an experience. Life isn’t just one thing. It’s not just happy. It’s not just confusing, or difficult. Or whatever. It’s not just. Most of the time, it’s and. At least, that’s where I’m at now.”

Love and sorrow.

Growth and exhaustion.

Loss and freedom.

Confusion and comfort.

Fear and vulnerability and beauty.

It’s difficult to dwell in the tension. But the honesty is freeing.