

ADVENT CONSPIRACY

The Christmas story is a story of love, hope, redemption and relationship. So, what happened? How did it turn into stuff, stress and debt? Somehow, we've traded the best story in the world for the story of what's on sale. Join others in the Advent Conspiracy as we show that Christmas still can change the world through Worshipping Fully, Spending Less, Giving More and Loving All.



WEEK 3: GIVE MORE

We know what you're thinking. "Wait, didn't they just say I should spend less, and yet here they are telling me to give more? What gives?" The most powerful, memorable gift you can give to someone else is yourself. And nobody modeled this more than Jesus. So what does this look like for you? Tickets to a ball game or the theater? A movie night? The main point is simple: When it comes to spending time with those you love, it's all about quality, not quantity.

Discuss these reflection questions with family, friends, and/or in your parish community. The questions were written for children & families, but can work for everyone.

GIVE MORE

1. Have you ever gotten a present that showed you that the person who gave it to you didn't know what you like? For example, it would be like if your favorite color is red, and everyone knows your favorite color is red, but someone gave you a blue hat instead of a red hat. What does that tell you about the person who gave you a blue hat?
2. Have you ever made that mistake with someone else?
3. What are some of the traditions your family does around Christmas?
 - a. What are some of the problems that might happen if we only celebrated Christmas by giving presents?

ENGAGING THE WORD

John 1:1-14

1. What stood out to you about these verses? How does it relate to Christmas?

Matthew 1:18-23 & Isaiah 7:14

2. One of God's names is Immanuel, which means God is with us. That is God's biggest gift to us – He is always with us! A really great idea for a present is to hang out with someone. Can you think of fun ways you could hang out with someone that would make a good Christmas present?

Need fun ideas for alternative gifts?

Try these sites:
BuyNothingChristmas.org
RethinkingChristmas.com
SimplifyHolidays.org

UNWRAPPING THE MESSAGE

1. It's pretty easy to walk into a store and buy something for someone. It's a lot harder to think of something really special for someone – maybe even something that you don't buy – maybe it's something that you make! What is the hardest thing about giving a special present like this?



VIDEOS, TIPS, AND MORE

Go online to go deeper: <http://gospel.link/adventconspiracy3>