



WEEK THREE

LUKE 2:8-20

The angels tell the shepherds the good news that Jesus has been born!

SAY THIS

**HOW DO WE KNOW
GOD LOVES US?
GOD GAVE US JESUS.**

DO THIS



CUDDLE TIME

Cuddle up with your child this month and pray, "Dear God, You gave us the best gift You could ever give when You gave us Your Son, Jesus. Thank You for giving us such a good friend. Help us to remember how special He is as we celebrate Christmas. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

REMEMBER THIS

"God has given a Son to us."
Isaiah 9:6, NCV

BASIC TRUTH

GOD LOVES ME



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3 WAYS TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T MISS CHRISTMAS

by Jon Acuff

Christmas is about seven minutes long when you have kids. One minute it's Thanksgiving and the next you're putting away your ornaments. Nothing moves as fast as the holidays, and it's no wonder that so many people find this time of year stressful. How do you make sure you make the most of your Christmas?

Here are three simple ways:

1. Do one less thing

I'm terrible at being still. On Saturdays, I often ask my wife, "What are we doing today?" She'll look up from a book or knitting and say, "This, this is what we're doing. The kids are playing. You've built a fire. This is enough." Maybe you over stuff your calendar like me, especially during Christmas. Well this year, do one less thing. Don't try to fit it all in. Look at your list of activities and remove one. Leave some room around the edges of your calendar and give the rest of what you'll do some breathing room.

2. Put the phone down

Your phone isn't just a phone, it's also an escape-pod. Whenever you want, it offers you the chance to mentally disappear from a moment. Part of the reason we miss the holidays is that we're stuck on our devices. This year, be

deliberate about taking a break. Leave it in a drawer. Put it back in your bedroom during a dinner party. Throw it in the glove compartment when you drive to grandma's house. Something that small can make a big difference.

3. Start a new tradition

Sometimes, we speed through the holidays because we don't have any traditions. A good tradition is like a speed bump. It slows you down and reminds you of years gone by. It pauses you and quiets the moment. It doesn't have to be massive. One of ours is that we let our kids get up early on Christmas morning, but they have to wait at the top of the stairs before they come down. They think it's torture but also secretly love the anticipation. That's our tradition. What new one can you start?

It will be January before you know it and you'll have a million things to do. Until then though, slow down. Laugh more. Take a deep breath. Relax a little bit.

God didn't give us Christmas to make us crazy.

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