



ADVENT CONSPIRACY

MAIN IDEA:

The Christmas Story is about
giving people what they need,
not getting what we want.

John 3:16-19

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. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:16-19

18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

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- 2) Less waste and for some, less debt.

How strange and sad it is that debt and consumerism reach their pinnacle on the morning we celebrate the birth of Jesus – the Savior who came to liberate us from these things. - *Advent Conspiracy, pg. 58*

2 Corinthians 8:13-16

Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality, as it is written: “The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little.”

Spending less on gifts, food and décor during the Christmas season leads to...

- 1) More thoughtfulness in our gift giving.
- 2) Less waste and for some, less debt.
- 3) Remembering Jesus is all we need.

Psalm 37:4

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you
the desires of your heart.

Philippians 4:19

And my God will meet all your needs according
to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

6 Things to Consider:

1) Set your budget and avoid debt.

6 Things to Consider:

2) Hand make presents.
Pray for the people you give to.

6 Things to Consider:

3) Think about your core values first,
then make sure what you buy
reflects those values.

6 Things to Consider:

- 4) In larger families, draw names or do a gift exchange.

6 Things to Consider:

- 5) Simply give one less present
(or two or three!).

6 Things to Consider:

6) Give people something they need as gifts.

“People in our church grabbed hold of the concept of spending less. People made Christmas simpler in order to worship fully. People gave relationally. A woman chose to ask her neighbors what their favorite charities were, and instead of giving them a typical gift, she donated to those agencies in their names. Christmas is becoming something different – and something better!” – *Pastor from Pennsylvania*



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