

2018
A Christ

Centered CHRISTMAS

FAMILY PLANNING GUIDE

Light
THE
World 



Christ Centered Christmas

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LIGHT THE WORLD CALENDAR



Join thousands of people around the world by choosing to **#LightTheWorld** with service. This calendar can help you with ideas to give as Jesus gave throughout the month. Big or small, a simple act can spread the light of Jesus Christ.

Instructions:

- 1 Select one (or more!) weekly ideas or fill in your own.
- 2 Circle the day(s) of the week you'd like to serve.
- 3 Share what you're doing online using #LightTheWorld.

**Saturday
Dec 1**

Worldwide Day of Service

I will serve by...

(For local ideas visit JustServe.org)

Week **1** Dec 2-8

Light The World

Focus on ways you can serve those in need globally.

- | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|---|---|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help people around the world through charitable donations. | <input type="checkbox"/> Sacrifice the cost of your favorite meal and feed the hungry. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about some of the problems in another country. How can you help? | <input type="checkbox"/> Donate your old phones, watches, or other electronics to a charitable group. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Listen to a refugee's story. See if there are ways you can help. | <input type="checkbox"/> Share on social media about someone who is an example of Christlike service. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |

Week **2** Dec 9-15

Light Your Community

Find ways you can reach out and serve your community.
(For more ideas visit JustServe.org)

- | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|--|--|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer to help a friend move. | <input type="checkbox"/> Donate a toy to a children's hospital. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help clear off an elderly neighbor's driveway. | <input type="checkbox"/> Eat lunch with someone new at school or work. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Share your family's heritage. Invite a friend to participate in a family Christmas tradition. | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask an elderly person about some of their life experiences. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Invite a widow or widower over for dinner. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |

Week **3** Dec 16-22

Light Your Family

This week, show love to those closest to you.

- | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|---|--|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Call (not text) your parents. | <input type="checkbox"/> Is there a family member you haven't talked to lately? Call him or her. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have a family prayer. | <input type="checkbox"/> Write a handwritten note to your parents or in-laws. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Take each of your children on a one-on-one activity. | <input type="checkbox"/> Do chores with your family around your parents' home. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> At dinner, tell each person why he or she is loved. | | | | | | |

Week **4** Dec 23-29

Light Your Faith

Use this final week to increase your own faith in Jesus Christ.

- | S* | M | Christmas Day | W | T | F | S |
|---|---|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend (or invite someone to) a special Christmas worship service—you're invited to one of ours on December 23.* | <input type="checkbox"/> Set your alarm 15 minutes earlier for scripture study. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make a goal to offer a kneeling prayer every morning this week. | <input type="checkbox"/> Read the account of the Savior's birth (Luke 2:1-16). | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visit a temple or other religious site. | <input type="checkbox"/> Share an experience on social media when prayer helped you carry a burden. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

BrightlyStreet.com

LightTheWorld.org

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FAMILY COUNCIL PLANNING SESSION

Directions: Gather all the family and start with a Prayer. Ask for guidance on how to have a more Christ-Centered Christmas in a simple way.

GOAL:

OPENING PRAYER:

OPENING SONG: Away in a Manger

FAMILY DISCUSSION:

Christ was born in a lonely manger. How can his birth help us keep things simple and focused on Christ?

Away in a manger
No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus
Lay down his sweet head
The stars in the sky
Look down where he lay
The little Lord Jesus
Asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing
The poor baby wakes
But little Lord Jesus
No crying he makes
I love thee Lord Jesus
Look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle
'Til morning is nigh

Be near me, Lord Jesus
I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever
and love me I pray
Bless all the dear
children in thy
tender care
And take us to heaven
to live with thee there

OUR FOCUS:



2018 HOME EVENING LESSON

The greatest example of giving is Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. You can take His example into your heart and home by teaching the following lesson with your family. You can follow this outline, or you can use it to craft a lesson that fits your family's needs. Invite your friends and neighbors to join you. As you teach and learn together, you will help spread the light of Christ.

Opening Prayer & Christmas Hymn

Discussion

What is the purpose and importance of Christmas?

- See 201–214 in the Church hymnbook for a selection of Christmas hymns.
- Read and discuss the Christmas story (Luke 2:1–16) or show “The Nativity” video (7:52) from the LDS Media Library on LDS.org. Discuss the purpose of Christmas and the importance of Jesus Christ in our lives.
- Key point: Jesus Christ’s life was one of consistent service and charity to others, even to those who were often rejected by the masses. His greatest act of love was His Atoning sacrifice and Resurrection.
- Key point: One of the ways we can remember and follow the Savior is to give to others as we celebrate Christmas. That is the purpose behind the “Light the World” Christmas initiative.

How can we “give as He gave” and #LightTheWorld?

- Show and discuss: #LightTheWorld Week 1 video (1:50) or other weekly videos found on LightTheWorld.org. Discuss what you learned and felt.
- Discuss: How can we “give as He gave” this Christmas season? (If available, visit LightTheWorld.org to review the videos, ideas for service, and an initiative service calendar.)

Activity

- Brainstorm ways your family and friends can help others.
- Prepare an activity with your friends that corresponds with one of the #LightTheWorld weekly themes. If appropriate, invite the full-time missionaries to join you.
- Visit LightTheWorld.org for inspiration, ideas, and resources.

Closing Prayer

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LIGHT THE WORLD WEEK 1

Directions: Plan out each Service Activity Idea on a separate worksheet. Try to get everyone's input and ask questions to get the ball going like "How can we serve like Jesus with our focus being on...?" Be prayerful.

DAY OF THE MONTH:

BRAINSTORM IDEAS:

CHOOSE ONE IDEA:

PLAN DETAILS TO CARRY OUT IDEA:

BUDGET:

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LIGHT THE WORLD WEEK 1

Directions: Include all your children as you assign out different tasks. They can be really simple and easy. The more involved they are, the better! Everyone wants to feel needed and a part of serving others. Ideas on assignments can be the head delivery person, packaging assistant, door knocker, coloring artist, etc.

ASSIGNMENTS:

TO DO LIST:

SHOPPING LIST:

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LIGHT YOUR COMMUNITY WEEK 2

Directions: Plan out each Service Activity Idea on a separate worksheet. Try to get everyone's input and ask questions to get the ball going like "How can we serve like Jesus with our focus being on...?" Be prayerful.

DAY OF THE MONTH:

BRAINSTORM IDEAS:

CHOOSE ONE IDEA:

PLAN DETAILS TO CARRY OUT IDEA:

BUDGET:

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LIGHT YOUR COMMUNITY WEEK 2

Directions: Include all your children as you assign out different tasks. They can be really simple and easy. The more involved they are, the better! Everyone wants to feel needed and a part of serving others. Ideas on assignments can be the head delivery person, packaging assistant, door knocker, coloring artist, etc.

ASSIGNMENTS:

TO DO LIST:

SHOPPING LIST:

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LIGHT YOUR FAMILY WEEK 3

Directions: Plan out each Service Activity Idea on a separate worksheet. Try to get everyone's input and ask questions to get the ball going like "How can we serve like Jesus with our focus being on...?" Be prayerful.

DAY OF THE MONTH:

BRAINSTORM IDEAS:

CHOOSE ONE IDEA:

PLAN DETAILS TO CARRY OUT IDEA:

BUDGET:

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LIGHT YOUR FAMILY WEEK 3

Directions: Include all your children as you assign out different tasks. They can be really simple and easy. The more involved they are, the better! Everyone wants to feel needed and a part of serving others. Ideas on assignments can be the head delivery person, packaging assistant, door knocker, coloring artist, etc.

ASSIGNMENTS:

TO DO LIST:

SHOPPING LIST:

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LIGHT YOUR FAITH WEEK 4

Directions: Plan out each Service Activity Idea on a separate worksheet. Try to get everyone's input and ask questions to get the ball going like "How can we serve like Jesus with our focus being on...?" Be prayerful.

DAY OF THE MONTH:

BRAINSTORM IDEAS:

CHOOSE ONE IDEA:

PLAN DETAILS TO CARRY OUT IDEA:

BUDGET:

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LIGHT YOUR FAITH WEEK 4

Directions: Include all your children as you assign out different tasks. They can be really simple and easy. The more involved they are, the better! Everyone wants to feel needed and a part of serving others. Ideas on assignments can be the head delivery person, packaging assistant, door knocker, coloring artist, etc.

ASSIGNMENTS:

TO DO LIST:

SHOPPING LIST:

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ADDITIONAL PLANNING NEEDS



Design and Artwork by Melia Rios-Lazo. Pick up
additional ideas for Light the World December
Activities online at www.BrightlyStreet.com