

Let Christmas Start a New Normal

Did you feel a special warm spirit these past two days? There was magic in the air as we celebrated Christmas. College kids were welcomed home. In a few lucky homes perhaps a family member was home from the service or service academy. Family joined around the dinner table and shared presents around the Christmas tree. We sang Christmas songs not only at home but also at church. For some it was the first time sitting in the church pew since last Christmas. We also think back to the children's Christmas show at church or school just a few days ago. It was so wonderful to see our young children praising the Lord that it brought tears to our eyes. Driving in the neighborhood at night unveiled colorful lights and Christmas decorations. The silent majority is heard, at least on this day. The God that anti-religious people push to the side is exalted by the rest of us, as we all say "Christ is born." The name of Jesus used in vain by some people in anger was now being praised by many. The King is born.



But now it is almost time for the clean-up to begin. On the day after Christmas discarded Christmas trees will line the streets. Decorations will be stored away in the attic. Stores will begin the process of exchanging gifts that were the wrong size, color, or perhaps unwanted.

Soon life will be back to normal again. But does it have to be? The birth of Jesus should be a new normal. Our lives should never be the same because Jesus came into the world. Jesus changed the world.

- The love we felt at Christmas was intended to be the love we feel every day. He taught us that God loves us so we should love others.
- He taught us that we are forgiven so we should forgive others.
- He taught us that we have nothing to fear and that we can trust God to be with us forever.
- He taught us that God keeps His promises.
- He taught us that He would be the sacrifice for our sins, so that we can live in peace.
- He taught us that we can have an impact on our fellow human beings by serving others and sharing His Word with them.
- He taught us that He has a room prepared for us in His Heavenly Kingdom. The world didn't have any room at the Inn for Him, but Jesus does for us.



While we may need to return a sweater that is the wrong size or color, we don't want to return to be the person we were before Jesus came into our life. The infant Jesus will transform our life, if we let Him. You may not have wanted the hideous tie, ugly sweater or slippers, but Jesus Christ is a gift to be accepted as the best gift of all. Accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior and your life will be transformed forever, with every moment as an act of worship. Don't let Jesus be just a King for a Day. Let Him be your King forever.

The Bible Says: *For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6).*

Prayer: Today we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. His birth in Bethlehem was a long time ago. Today, however, we hope that He was born into our hearts as our Lord and Savior. Let every moment of our life be an act of worship. Amen.