



Advent Conspiracy

Reclaiming Christmas

When asked “What is the best gift you’ve ever given or received,” this is what members had to say:

- My time
- My heart and love for teaching
- Sharing a kidney with a friend
- Reading the comics a favorite ritual of my husband while he was in the hospital
- Taking a leave of absence from work to care for my mother
- Growing, freezing and giving away jam.
- Listening to my ill brother as he told stories of growing up together.
- Giving my children a real sense of being global citizens & respecting all people
- Instilling independence and confidence in my daughter
- Unconditional love for my brother who is much different than I
- Listening without trying to “fix” the problem
- Caring for a friend with breast cancer
- Anonymously paying for someone to travel to visit family
- Spending time at a veteran’s home to listen to stories
- A photo album of the previous year’s family life
- Making Grandma’s and Grandpa’s “Book of Love”
- A high score on a school entrance exam so my parent’s didn’t have to worry about the money
- Sharing my grandmother’s ring with my fiancé
- A photo collage of my father and his grandfather together
- Caring alongside my brother for our dying parents
- A hug
- Losing a job that led to a better way of living
- A mix of songs made by a friend
- A logbook of our Canadian Adventures over the years
- A special t-shirt produced by my mom before she died
- A decorated Christmas tree from my son
- Handmade gifts from my children
- Baking and sharing bread with others.



Rethink Church Reclaim Christmas

A C O N S P I R A C Y O F L O V E

Life is a song. Love is the music.

▶ A Christmas song is never **FORGOTTEN**

“A song will outlive all sermons in the memory.” ~Henry Giles

You don't love someone for their looks, or their clothes, or for their fancy car, but because they sing a song only you can hear.

▶ Christmas speaks a universal **LANGUAGE**

“Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.” Isaiah 12:5

▶ Christmas teaches the world to **SING**

Christmas brings a Song to Every Heart

“I will sing to the LORD, for he has been good to me.” Ps 13:6

Psalm 100 (NCV)

¹ Shout to the LORD, all the earth.

² Serve the LORD with joy;
come before him with singing.

³ Know that the LORD is God.
He made us, and we belong to him;
we are his people, the sheep he tends.

⁴ Come into his city with songs of thanksgiving
and into his courtyards with songs of praise.
Thank him and praise his name.

⁵ The LORD is good. His love is forever,
and his loyalty goes on and on.

Life is the sacred mystery singing to itself, dancing to its drum, telling
tales, improvising, playing

Those who wish to sing always find a song.

“Christmas gift suggestions:

To your enemy, forgiveness.

To an opponent, tolerance.

To a friend, your heart.

To a customer, service.

To all, charity.

To every child, a good example.

To yourself, respect.” Oren Arnold

Christmas has lost its meaning for us because we have lost the
*spirit of expectancy. We cannot prepare for an observance. We
must prepare for an experience.* - Handel H. Brown