

A Simple Plan for Celebrating Christmas 2024 as a Church

By Emily Robertson

We realize that Christmas can be an extremely busy time of year for church staff. To make things simpler for you, we've put together a plan that will help you coordinate your church's celebration of Christmas.

Date	What's Happening
November 1	Finalize Christmas Planning
November 8	Place Advent and Christmas Evangelism Resource Orders
November 24	Last Sunday Before Advent, Announce Christmas Outreach Plans
November 29	Place Orders for New Year Evangelism and Small-Group Resources
December 1	First Sunday of Advent
December 8	Second Sunday of Advent
December 15	Third Sunday of Advent
December 22	Last Sunday of Advent
December 24	Last Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve

Finalizing Your Christmas Planning

How will your church celebrate Christmas together this year? We've put below what you'll need to make these ideas happen. You can cross out the ideas you won't be implementing: it won't hurt our feelings.

Sermon Planning for Advent

- ☐ ASAP - Download Alistair Begg's free five-week preaching guide linked with his Advent devotional, [Let Earth Receive Her King](#).

Outreach Event(s) for Christmas

- ☐ November 1: Decide type and nail down details
 - Caroling
 - Nativity
 - Kids' festival
 - Craft fair
 - Dessert exchange
 - Concert
 - Other _____
- ☐ November 8: Create invitations to the event
- ☐ November 8: Order resources to give away
 - [It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like Christmas](#) by Andrew Wilson
 - [Christmas Uncut](#) by Carl Laferton (NEW edition)
 - [The Ultimate Christmas Wishlist](#) by Rico Tice
 - [Searching for Christmas](#) by J.D. Greear
- ☐ November 24: Encourage your congregation to hand out invitations
- ☐ December: Host the event(s)
- ☐ Dec 22 - Set extra resources out for visitors to take for free
- ☐ December 24: Set extra resources out for visitors to take for free

Advent Reading Plan for Your Congregation

- ☐ November 1: Decide if you'll coordinate a churchwide Advent reading plan
 - [Let Earth Receive Her King](#) by Alistair Begg has an accompanying free preaching guide you can use to sync with your congregation's Advent reading.
- ☐ November 8: Order Advent devotionals, or request a custom discount code for your congregation so they can order their own. Save when you buy in bulk.
 - For Adults:
 - [Let Earth Receive Her King](#) by Alistair Begg

- [*The Advent of Glory*](#) by R.C. Sproul
- [*Love Came Down at Christmas*](#) by Sinclair Ferguson
- [*The Christmas We Didn't Expect*](#) by David Mathis
- For Families with Young Children:
 - [*The Christmas Promise Advent Calendar*](#) (includes devotional)
 - [*The God of Amazing Gifts*](#) by Lizzie Laferton
 - [*The Adventure of Christmas*](#) by Ed Drew
 - [*A Better Than Anything Christmas*](#) by Barbara Reaoch
 - [*A Jesus Christmas*](#) by Barbara Reaoch
- For Families with Kids Aged 6+
 - [*The God of Amazing Gifts*](#) by Lizzie Laferton
 - [*The Adventure of Christmas*](#) by Ed Drew
 - [*A Better Than Anything Christmas*](#) by Barbara Reaoch
 - [*A Jesus Christmas*](#) by Barbara Reaoch

☐ November 24: Distribute Advent devotionals

Christmas Curriculum for Kids in December

- ☐ November 8: Order a Christmas curriculum or create plans for your own
 - [*The Christmas Promise Sunday School Lessons*](#)
- ☐ December 1: Host the first session of the curriculum
- ☐ December 8: Host the second session of the curriculum
- ☐ December 15: Host the third session of the curriculum
 - Dec 22 - Use our all-age service plan for [*The Christmas Story Brick-By-Brick*](#) or use the all-age service plan in [*The Christmas Promise Storybook and Sunday School Curriculum*](#)
- ☐ December 24: Include a read-aloud slot in your Christmas Eve service
 - An outline for a family Christmas Eve service is included in *The Christmas Promise Sunday School Lessons Curriculum*
 - Download free illustrations for the big screen [here](#)

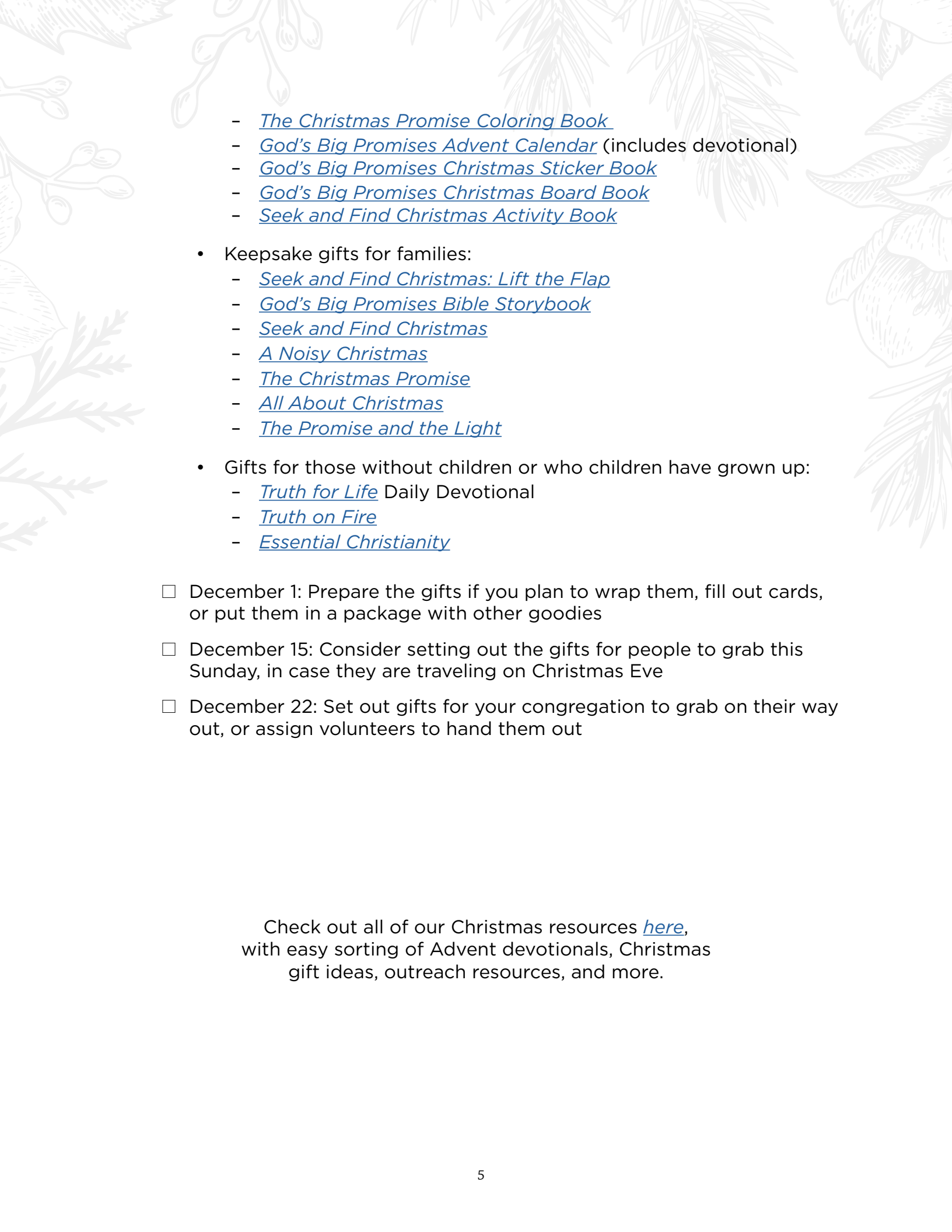
Christmas Eve Service

- ☐ November 1: Decide what you'll do for Christmas Eve and begin coordinating the details
 - Who will give the message?
 - Will there be special music beyond the usual?

- Will you invite church members to participate in special readings, prayers, or lighting an Advent candle?
 - Will you be doing a read-aloud for kids?
 - Do you need candles and holders?
 - Who will decorate? When do decorations need to be done by?
- ☐ November 8: Order resources you'd like to give away at Christmas Eve service (you may be doing this for an outreach event as well)
- [*It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like Christmas*](#) by Andrew Wilson
 - [*Christmas Uncut*](#) by Carl Laferton (NEW edition)
 - [*The Ultimate Christmas Wishlist*](#) by Rico Tice
 - [*Searching for Christmas*](#) by J.D. Greear
- ☐ November 8: Order a kid's book to read aloud during the service or buy in bulk to give away to every child who comes along
- [*The Christmas Story Brick-By-Brick*](#)
 - [*The Christmas Promise*](#)
 - [*The Christmas Surprise*](#)
 - [*A Noisy Christmas*](#)
 - [*There's a Lion in my Nativity*](#)
- ☐ November 29: Download free illustrations to project on the big screen during the read-aloud time
- [*The Christmas Story Brick by Brick Free Materials*](#)
 - [*The Christmas Promise Free Illustrations*](#)
 - [*The Christmas Surprise Free Illustrations*](#)
 - [*A Noisy Christmas Free Illustrations*](#)
 - [*There's a Lion in my Nativity Free Illustrations*](#)
- ☐ December 15: Encourage your congregation to invite others to the Christmas Eve service
- ☐ Dec 22 & Dec 24 - Host your services and set out evangelistic resources for visitors to take for free

Christmas Gifts for Your Congregation

- ☐ November 1: Decide if you'll be giving members of your congregation a Christmas/Advent gift
- ☐ November 8: Order Christmas/Advent gifts based on the number of families in your church, plus a few extra for visitors
- Simple gifts for families:
 - [*The Christmas Story Brick-By-Brick*](#)
 - [*The Christmas Promise Advent Calendar*](#) (includes devotional)

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- [*The Christmas Promise Coloring Book*](#)
 - [*God's Big Promises Advent Calendar*](#) (includes devotional)
 - [*God's Big Promises Christmas Sticker Book*](#)
 - [*God's Big Promises Christmas Board Book*](#)
 - [*Seek and Find Christmas Activity Book*](#)
 - Keepsake gifts for families:
 - [*Seek and Find Christmas: Lift the Flap*](#)
 - [*God's Big Promises Bible Storybook*](#)
 - [*Seek and Find Christmas*](#)
 - [*A Noisy Christmas*](#)
 - [*The Christmas Promise*](#)
 - [*All About Christmas*](#)
 - [*The Promise and the Light*](#)
 - Gifts for those without children or who children have grown up:
 - [*Truth for Life*](#) Daily Devotional
 - [*Truth on Fire*](#)
 - [*Essential Christianity*](#)
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- ☐ December 1: Prepare the gifts if you plan to wrap them, fill out cards, or put them in a package with other goodies
 - ☐ December 15: Consider setting out the gifts for people to grab this Sunday, in case they are traveling on Christmas Eve
 - ☐ December 22: Set out gifts for your congregation to grab on their way out, or assign volunteers to hand them out

Check out all of our Christmas resources [here](#), with easy sorting of Advent devotionals, Christmas gift ideas, outreach resources, and more.

☐ **Follow-Up Evangelism in the New Year**

- ☐ November 30: Order resources for New Year evangelism, including the invitations that come with some kits
 - [Christianity Explored Course](#) (7 sessions)
 - [Hope Explored Course](#) (3 sessions)
 - [Hymns We Love Course](#) (5 sessions)
- ☐ December: Hand out New Year evangelistic course invitations at your Christmas outreach event for those who might like to come back
- ☐ Dec 22 & Dec 24 - Set out New Year evangelistic course invitations alongside any resources you are giving away. Invite visitors back at the end of the service by announcing the course taking place in the New Year.

Daily Reading & Small Groups in the New Year

- ☐ November 29: Order resources for New Year small groups so you're not scrambling in December or January
- ☐ Daily Reading Resources
 - [Kickstart](#) - Six weeks to a healthy Bible reading habit
 - [Healthcheck](#) - 16 short devotions helping Christians to see where and how they can grow in their faith and joy
- ☐ Small Group Resources
 - [Love Your Church](#) Series (6-8 Sessions, depending on the book. Free videos, discussion guides, and worksheets.)
 - [The Air We Breathe](#) (10 sessions. Free video series by Glen Scrivener)
 - [Good Book Guides](#) (Multiple topics, books of the Bible, and session lengths)
- ☐ December 15: Announce New Year small group signups to your church

Your Own Advent Reading

- ☐ November 10: Order your own Advent devotional to spend time with the Lord daily during the busy season ahead. Use PASTOR24 to order a free copy of one of the following from our site. We're grateful for you!
 - [Let Earth Receive Her King](#) by Alistair Begg
 - [The Advent of Glory](#) by R.C. Sproul
 - [Love Came Down at Christmas](#) by Sinclair Ferguson
 - [The Christmas We Didn't Expect](#) by David Mathis