

# Pastor Phil's E-note

## Letter From Jesus About Christmas

... It doesn't matter what you call the day; if you want to celebrate My birth just GET ALONG AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

I've seen a lot of hate emails about excluding Christ in the stores—but the following gives us another way to approach the season. I love the author's outlook. If each and EVERY Christian did what the author suggests, Christ would be known whether the government agreed or not. Hope you're blessed by this positive message!

Letter from Jesus about Christmas:

*It has come to my attention that many of you are upset that folks are taking My name out of the season.*

*How I personally feel about this celebration can be more easily understood by those of you who have been blessed with children of your own. It doesn't matter what you call the day; if you want to celebrate My birth just GET ALONG AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER.*

*Now, having said that, let Me go on. If it bothers you that the town in which you live doesn't allow a scene depicting My birth, then just get rid of a couple of Santa and snowmen and put a small Nativity scene on your own front lawn. If all My followers did this, there would be no need for such a scene on the town square because there would be so many all around town.*

*Stop worrying about the fact that people are calling the tree a holiday tree, instead of a Christmas tree. It was I who made all trees. You can remember Me anytime you see a tree. Decorate a grape vine if you wish: I actually spoke of the vine in My teaching, explaining who I am in relation to you by describing both of our parts. (See John 15:1-8.)*

*If you want to give Me a present in remembrance of My birth, here is my wish list. Choose something from the following:*

1. Instead of writing protest letters objecting to the way My birthday is being celebrated, write letters of love and hope to soldiers away from home. They are terribly afraid and lonely this time of year. I know; they tell Me all the time.
2. Visit someone in a nursing home. You don't have to know them personally. They just need to know that someone cares about them.
3. Instead of writing the President complaining about the wording on the cards his staff sent out this year, why not write and tell him that you'll be praying for him and his family this year. Then follow up with... "It will be nice hearing from you again."



*"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me."*

*(John 15:4)*

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*East Naples Baptist Church*  
Changed By His Love - Challenged By His Life



"I have shown you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive."

(Acts 20:35)



Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

(Luke 2:14)

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4. Instead of giving your children a lot of gifts you can't afford and they don't need, spend time with them. Tell them the story of My birth, and why I came to live with you down here. Hold them in your arms and remind them that I love them.
5. Pick someone that has hurt you in the past and forgive him or her.
6. Did you know that someone in your town will attempt to take his own life this season because he feels so alone and hopeless? Since you don't know who that person is, try giving everyone you meet a warm smile; it could make the difference.
7. Instead of nit picking about what the retailer in your town calls the holiday, be patient with the people who work there. Give them a warm smile and a kind word. Even if they aren't allowed to wish you a "Merry Christmas" that doesn't keep you from wishing them one. Then stop shopping there on Sunday. If the store didn't make so much money on that day, they'd close and let their employees spend the day at home with their families.
8. If you really want to make a difference, support a missionary—especially one who takes My love and Good News to those who have never heard My name.
9. Here's a good one. There are individuals and whole families in your town who not only will have no "Christmas" tree, but neither will they have any presents to give or receive. If you don't know them, give some food and a few gifts to a charity that believes in Me to make the delivery for you.
10. Finally, if you want to make a statement about your belief in and loyalty to Me, then behave like a Christian. Don't do things in secret that you wouldn't do in My presence. Let people know by your actions that you are one of mine.

*Don't forget: I am God and can take care of Myself. Just love Me and do what I have told you to do. I'll take care of all the rest. Check out the list above and get to work; time is short. I'll help you, but the ball is now in your court.*

*And do have a most blessed Christmas with all those you love and remember.*

*I LOVE YOU,*

*Jesus*