

5 DAYS TO CHRISTMAS

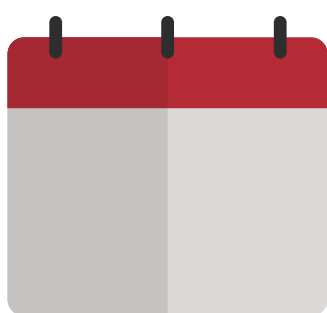
5 WAYS TO HELP YOUR GROWN KIDS NOT HATE CHRISTMAS



Ask this question: What is a tradition that you love?

FRIDAY

When you ask this question, you show a son or daughter-in-law (or your grown child's significant other) that he or she matters. Your traditions are fun, but they are not more sacred than people.



Take the pressure off

SATURDAY

Christmas is not really a specific day. Christmas is Jesus. It's celebrating one of the most powerful gifts ever given. When you take the pressure off a specific day and time, you take the pressure off your children. Be open. Be flexible. Celebrating the Christmas on the 30th or the 28th is just as special as the 25th.



Serve someone

SUNDAY

Find some way to give or serve today. Maybe it's a gift for the Angel tree, or a surprise for an elderly neighbor. When we take the focus off of us, we tap into the beauty of being a gift to someone else. If you are going to be alone for Christmas, invite others into your home. Play Dirty Santa. Visit a nursing home. Serve at a local shelter.



Read the story

MONDAY

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son." Read the Christmas story for yourself. Remember the reason for this day. Take 5 minutes and journal your gratitude in the form of a prayer.



Leave perfection behind

TUESDAY

One day, when you are older, your children or grandchildren aren't going to remember all the perfect details of Christmas, but the fun, laughter, and time you had together. It may be messy. It may be loud. Your dressing might be too salty. Who cares? You are making sweet memories. Give perfection the boot.

HAVE A BEAUTIFUL, MESSY, MERRY CHRISTMAS