



## Uncomplicating Christmas

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**Scripture:** Luke 2:10–11; John 3:16; 17:1–3; 1:12; 3:17

**Idea:** Christmas is complicated. But the message of Christmas isn't. What do you need to know? *God loved and gave.* What do you need to do? *Believe and receive.*

### Introduction

1. Christmas is complicated—especially for men like me.
2. We are supposed to *surprise* people with *exactly* what they want.
  - I know how to surprise my family with gifts.
  - I know how to get people exactly what they want.
  - I don't know how to surprise people with exactly what they want.
3. We aren't good shoppers.
4. Our wives lie to us: "Oh, I don't need anything." Yeah, you just go with that and see how merry your Christmas morning is.
5. Then there's this question: "Whose family do we spend Christmas with this year?" That was easy for us. When we got married, Sandra laid out the ground rules for the holiday family split.

### Her Family

Thanksgiving  
Christmas  
Memorial Day  
Easter  
Independence Day

### My Family

Halloween  
Groundhog Day  
Earth Day  
National Arbor Day  
Flag Day

6. Fortunately, the **message** of Christmas isn't complicated.
7. Preachers and the church have made it sound complicated. But it's not.
8. Lots of people go back to church at Christmas time looking for something simple. Some reassurance. In some instances, it's the equivalent of showing up at Bass Pro Shop to buy a fishing pole (it's like a forest) or going to the mall for anything. Where do you start? You walk out overwhelmed, not sure what you're supposed to do. Worse, you don't know where you stand!
9. As we get close to Christmas, I want you to know. So, today we will answer two questions:
  - What do you need to **know**?
  - What do you need to **do**?

**Luke 2:10–11 (TNIV)**