



Uncomplicating Christmas

Andy Stanley

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Well, Merry Christmas officially, it's pretty exciting. I love Christmas, I think most of us love Christmas or things about Christmas, but Christmas is complicated. And the older I get the more complicated it gets and I think the more kids you have the more complicated it gets. If there's a divorce somewhere in your family that complicates it. People bring people you don't like to your house, [laughter] that complicates it.

00:26 S1: But I think for men it's the most complicated of all because there are lots of reasons, and women, you can decide why. But it's complicated because, for one reason, our wives lie to us at Christmas, and the longer you're married the more consistent this lie is. In fact, if you're dating, maybe your girlfriend's lying to you because you say things like, "What do you want for Christmas?" And they say, "Oh, I don't need anything".

[laughter]

00:51 S1: "I don't want anything, I don't need anything". "What do you want for Christmas?" "Oh, I don't need anything, I don't want anything". But woe to the man, woe to the man that believes that lie and you wake up Christmas morning and there's nothing". "Well, you said..." 'Cause you will not have a very merry Christmas, so that's complicating. Then the thing that kinda goes with that for me, maybe this is just me... Is I feel this pressure to surprise people with exactly what they want.

[laughter]

01:20 S1: Okay? And maybe you don't struggle with this but I feel this pressure the whole time. In fact, there's a point in the Christmas season when I can kinda relax and enjoy Christmas but it's somewhere through all the complexity of family and somewhere it has to get all sorted out. But this whole thing of surprising people with exactly what they want... Because I know how to surprise people with a gift, right? In fact, you've all done this. You give them the gift and they had no idea they were gonna get that and it's like, "Thank you, I don't have one of these. I didn't see that coming". So surprising people with a gift, I got that. Giving people exactly what they want, I get that too, they go to the store with you.

[laughter]

01:56 S1: They point to it, you take that one, you set it on the counter and you say, "I'll be back in 10 minutes". And then, you go and then they shop and then you go back and you get that one. That way when they wake up on Christmas morning they get exactly what they want. So I know how to surprise people, I know how to get people exactly what they want. I don't know how you surprise someone with exactly what they want so that's a bit stressful. The whole mall thing is stressful.

02:19 S1: And if, for many of you, maybe the most stress part or the most complicated, I should say, part of Christmas is the whole family thing. Because last year you were with his family and now you're gonna be with your family, and you gotta sort that whole thing out. And then, somewhere along the way there's gonna be a divorce somewhere. So it's not just his parents and her parents, it's his father and his girlfriend, and his mother, and her new husband. And then, you got your parents, you're still together, they don't get along but they're still together.

02:46 S1: And so... And then, if there's two divorces then there's four groups of people and there's a boyfriend and an uncle and it's just very, very complicated. And somebody's gonna be mad, and then there's the other complication. And women please be patient with us when we ask this question because I know it kinda ruins Christmas. But you're pullin' in the driveway, you're in the neighborhood and you're going to somebody's family and the guy we're just like, you