

Fun and Meaningful Family Activities

for December - Try One or Try Them All

Pick a hands on Nativity themed activity: http://bit.ly/HandsOnNativity	Have a quiet night at home playing your favorite board games, while enjoying cocoa and snacks.	Mark the days of Advent with a Names of Jesus printable chain spelloutloud.com/names-of-jesus-advent-chain.html	Attend a Christmas parade.	Pick out at least one gift from a local store, craft show, or from a small business owner (local or online).
If there is no snow, have a family "snowball" fight with rolled up socks or wadded up scrap paper.	Have each family member write a letter to someone who has had a special impact on their lives.	Go around your community and look at Christmas light displays.	Let the youngest child in your home have the honor of placing Jesus in the crèche in your Nativity scene.	Surprise a neighbor by shoveling their driveway after a snow fall. If there's no snow, surprise them with another act of kindness.
Make and deliver treats to neighbors.	Go Christmas caroling.	Free Space 	Give Jesus a birthday gift this year by giving a gift to someone in need.	Use a Jesse Tree to help prepare for Christmas: www.feelslikehomeblog.com/ebooks/jesse-tree/ (free download)
Watch a Christmas themed movie together as a family.	Use an Advent wreath in your home. Here is an Advent wreath craft to try: wholesomecrafts.com/2014/12/01/2014-advent-wreath-craft-for-kids/	Make at least one handmade gift to give this year (can be individually or as a whole family effort).	Host a cookie swap or cookie decorating party with family and/or friends.	Have a family night at the end of December to talk about family and personal goals for next year.
Make a new, hand-made tree ornament. Need ideas? Here's a fun handprint one: thehappymom.net/handprint-ornament-ideas/	Learn to say Merry Christmas in a few languages.	Do something to make someone else's holiday season better this year.	Read at least one book a week that talks about a Christmas tradition in another country.	Celebrate St. Nicholas Day (Dec 6th) by putting small gifts and candy in your children's shoes.