



A Christ-Centered Christmas: Seven Traditions to Lead Us Closer to the Savior

Emily Belle Freeman

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Describes the meaning behind seven gifts of Christmas, each tied to a figure in the Nativity and celebrated by a tradition.

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From Reader Review A Christ-Centered Christmas: Seven Traditions to Lead Us Closer to the Savior for online ebook

Natalie says

I love the sweet and simple ideas presented for adding meaning to family Christmas traditions. I shared many with my husband and hope to include some in future years. The explanation of the roles of each figure in the nativity will stay with me and help me remember their importance in the birth of our Savior.

Kathy says

My husband and I had been discussing that we wanted to do something for Christmas this year to make it special. Our kids are getting a little older and only the youngest still believes in Santa Claus. We really wanted to focus less on getting and more on giving to others this year.

I have heard Emily Freeman speak at Time Out for Women and think she is a wonderful speaker and author so I was excited when I received a copy of her book A Christ-Centered Christmas to review. As I started reading this book I realized this was the answer to what we needed to do to make this Christmas special.

We have a nativity we set up each year but I opted to go purchase a new small nativity set that my children could handle without breaking to use in conjunction with this book. There are 7 figures from the Christmas story that are used in this book. Mary, Joseph, the Angel, the Lamb, the Shepard, the Wise Men & the Baby Jesus. With each figure there is a song, story and activity/tradition to do to help keep the focus of the season on Christ. The activities are simple and things that could easily be done or adapted to work in most families.

We started tonight by talking about Mary. Our 5 children were very receptive. We now have a small nativity sitting on top of our TV with a the lone figure of Mary. When we were done our 5 year old wanted to jump right in and start on the next figurine.

I'm looking forward to spending a little time each week from now until Christmas focusing on the Savior and the true meaning of Christmas

Amanda Lewis says

I liked this book so much I went out and bought it. Mrs Freeman discusses Christmas traditions that she practiced in her home with her children that focused the Christmas season more on Christ. Mary, Joseph, the angels, the shepherds, the wiseman, the sheep, and the baby Jesus each teach different lessons, and have unique traditions, that you can do in a day or over the course of a week or two. While this book is geared more toward families with teenagers I know she has made a simplified version for families with little kids as well.

Shanae says

It's a book about studying one figure from the nativity a week or a month through the Christmas season and building traditions to focus on the reason for the season. It's good. You can use it as an open, read, do, lesson book.

I expected to like this book more than I did. I don't know if it's because I was listening instead of reading it. I'm reading her Christ centered home one and really like it. I just felt like there weren't as many nuggets in this one. And I felt like I could take the idea and make it my own with my synopsis above rather than listening for 90 minutes.

Debbie says

Wonderful reminders of how Christmas should be celebrated.

Mindy says

I was excited to review this book with the holiday season upon us. Even more so, to take the time to reflect on and read a lovely book centered on Christ and Christmas. I really appreciated the author's introduction and what inspired her to write this book. I loved how each chapter started with a verse of scripture, and ended with a summary of each tradition with suggestions how to incorporate it in your life. As well as a sweet paragraph describing the tradition. The author's heart-felt stories and ideas make this book all the more enjoyable. I can't wait to start some of these and add to our own family Christmas traditions.

Becky says

There are great ideas in this book. I wish I had a family to do the activities with.

Kara says

My bestest friend gave us this book for Christmas last year and I finally got around to reading it. I don't know if I'm just extra weepy this year but the thoughts in this book really touched my heart and I cried through almost the whole thing, especially the section about Mary. I'm hoping to implement at least a few of the ideas this year and try to change our focus to the real reason for the season; our Savior Jesus Christ.

Heidi Tucker says

A short quick read which inspired me to change my focus at Christmas. Love this!

Amber says

Some absolutley fabulous ideas that I am going to employ in my Christmas celebrating from here on out.

Alexis says

How do you start Christ-centered family traditions if you didn't grow up with very many? You need *Celebrating A Christ-Centered Christmas* by Emily Belle Freeman! She has 7 awesome traditions that are centered on Christ that she shares with you. Each tradition is focused on one of the members in the nativity. She shares stories, songs to sing, scriptures from the Bible to read, and activities to do with your family. I love that this book is really for family of all ages. You can adjust the activities so they fit the ages of your children. It's also a great book for anyone who believes in Christ.

Celebrating A Christ-Centered Christmas is a quick read that is full of great ideas! I love the feelings I felt while reading this book. It has really gotten me motivated to make sure that our family traditions are more focused on Christ with Santa still there, but just not the main focus.

Sandi says

I read this because one of my counselors at church chose a condensed version of this for the Christmas lesson for the young women this year. A quick, simple read. It really was thought provoking. I find myself evaluating what we do during the Christmas season and if there's too much Santa and not enough Christ. I love that the author doesn't try to get rid of Santa completely, he's still an important, fun part of it! But it's really not his holiday.

I loved this book. I look forward to implementing this, or something like it, this year with my family.

Amanda says

I got this with a nativity set at Christmas. Though I'm not usually inclined to read books that start off with the assumption I need help re-centering my own life (I'm too arrogant, apparently), I actually didn't get the "holier than thou" impression from this book that those kinds of books can give off. Instead, I found a fairly simple, and yet profound guide to pondering the figures in a typical nativity set. I enjoyed the brief personal stories and the songs and scriptures the author compiled to round out her ideas. Each figure represents a lovely aspect from which to ponder the Christmas season.

Andrea says

We are definitely doing all of this as a family for Christmas this year. If you've been searching for a simple way to make Christmas more meaningful, pick up this slim little gem.

Verona says

Although this book could best be utilized by families with young children, I learned so many new insights into the Nativity and the Spirit of Christmas. I intend to pass along these traditions to my children and their families to bring the focus of Christmas back to CHRIST! It is a wonderful book full of practical, easy ideas to use with your family to have a more Christ-centered Christmas.
