No-Stress Christmas Swap Party

Who doesn’t need a No-Stress Christmas?

We’re giving you everything you need to help you give the gift of a No-Stress Christmas, and have some fun along the way!

You’ll swap laughter, encouragement, community, friendship, cookies, & the gift of 25 Holiday Sticky Notes for Your Soul.

All you have to do is print this packet, follow the no-stress instructions, and share the joy of a No-Stress Christmas with your family & friends!

Included in this packet:
- Planning Checklist
- Invitations
- Recipe Cards
- Signs & Decorations
- Place Cards
- Gift Tags
- Pillow Box Gift Boxes
- Sticky Notes for the Soul

#TheGreatestGift
#UnwrappingTheGreatestGift

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The basic idea of the No-Stress Christmas Swap:
It’s No-Stress for you: Just print this kit, follow the directions, and open up your home to 8–10 friends for a time of laughter, encouragement, cookies, and fun
It’s No-Stress for your guests: They just bake (or even pick up at the store) one kind of cookie to share, and will go home with LOTS of different cookies, a heart full of encouragement, and a set of Sticky Notes for the Soul to help them have A No-Stress Christmas

Before the Christmas Swap
___ 1. Print invitations & Recipe Cards.
___ 2. Invite a few friends, family, neighbors to experience a No-Stress Christmas
    ___ Have each guest RSVP with the type of cookie they are bringing
    ___ Give each guest a Recipe Card with their invitation; Ask each guest to write the recipe for their cookies on the Recipe Card to share at the Swap
___ 3. Print out the printables from this kit:
    ___ Signs and banners to decorate (1 banner, 1 8x10 print, and 5 table-top prints are included in this kit)
    ___ Gift Boxes (1 per guest)
    ___ Sticky Notes for the Soul (1 set per guest)
    ___ Place Cards (one per guest/type of cookie)
    ___ Gift tags for Cookie Wrapping Station

For the Christmas Swap
___ 4. Hang up signs and banners to decorate.
___ 5. Prepare Holiday Sticky Notes For Your Soul as gifts for your guests:
    - Cut out each set of Sticky Notes and tuck them into a gift box for each guest.
    - OR, simply set out supplies for guests to cut out and package their own set of Sticky Notes
___ 6. Set up a “Cookie Wrapping Station”
    (where guests can wrap up plates of cookies to take home or to give as gifts)
    Ideas of what to include:
    - Paper plates
    - plastic wrap
    - scissors
    - tags
    - ziploc bags
    - ribbon, twine
    - glitter pens
    - tape
    - hole punch
___ 7. Each guest prepares one type of cookie to share.
    (recommended: 1 dozen for each person attending, so there there are extras to share and everyone goes home with lots of cookies to enjoy or to give as gifts!)

At the Christmas Swap
___ 8. Serve beverages that go well with cookies (coffee, tea, milk)
___ 9. Have guests write the name of their cookie on a place card to set beside their cookies.
___ 10. During the party, guests sample cookies, trade recipes, package cookies to share, and most importantly, are reminded that Christmas can be No-Stress because God is all-good and all is grace.
Who doesn’t need a No-Stress Christmas?

YOU’RE INVITED to a

No-Stress Christmas SWAP PARTY

Bring some cookies & go home with a No-Stress Christmas!

__________________________

When

__________________________

Where

__________________________

RSVP

Let’s swap laughter, encouragement, community, friendship, cookies & the gift of 25 Holiday Sticky Notes for Your Soul – your free daily manifestos for A No-Stress Christmas.

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No-Stress Christmas SWAP PARTY

Recipe Cards

CHRISTMAS COOKIE RECIPE
from the kitchen of:

Name of Cookie: ________________________________

Ingredients: ___________________________________

_____________________________________________

_____________________________________________

Instructions: __________________________________

_____________________________________________

_____________________________________________

“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!” 2 Corinthians 9:15

CHRISTMAS COOKIE RECIPE
from the kitchen of:

Name of Cookie: ________________________________

Ingredients: __________________________________

_____________________________________________

_____________________________________________

Instructions: __________________________________

_____________________________________________

_____________________________________________

“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!” 2 Corinthians 9:15
No-Stress Christmas Swap Party Banner

directions:
Cut along solid lines.
Punch holes in top corners.
Lace a long piece of string or twine through the holes.
Hang and enjoy!

tip: try layering your banner with bunting or garland for added color and texture. Use the patterned bunting provided in this kit, or make your own out of fabric strips, ribbon, yarn, or scrapbook paper.
No-Stress Christmas SWAP PARTY BANNER

directions:
Cut along solid lines.
Punch holes in top corners.
Lace a long piece of string or twine through the holes.
Hang and enjoy!

tip: try layering your banner with bunting or garland for added color and texture. Use the patterned bunting provided in this kit, or make your own out of fabric strips, ribbon, yarn, or scrapbook paper.
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No-Stress Christmas SWAP PARTY

B A N N E R

directions:
Cut along solid lines.
Punch holes in top corners.
Lace a long piece of string or twine through the holes.
Hang and enjoy!

tip: try layering your banner with bunting or garland for added color and texture. Use the patterned bunting provided in this kit, or make your own out of fabric strips, ribbon, yarn, or scrapbook paper.
No-Stress Christmas SWAP PARTY BANNER

directions:
Cut along solid lines.
Punch holes in top corners.
Lace a long piece of string or twine through the holes.
Hang and enjoy!

tip: try layering your banner with bunting or garland for added color and texture. Use the patterned bunting provided in this kit, or make your own out of fabric strips, ribbon, yarn, or scrapbook paper.
Welcome to our No-Stress Christmas Swap Party
THANKS BE TO GOD for His indescribable GIFT

2 Corinthians 9:15
We are most prepared for Christmas when we revel in His presence as the Gift

Ann Voskamp, “The Greatest Gift”
FOR UNTO US
A CHILD IS BORN
UNT0 US
A SON IS GIVEN

Isaiah 9:6
(NKJV)
Christmas is about God’s doing whatever it takes to be with us — and our doing whatever it takes to be with Him.

Ann Voskamp, “The Greatest Gift”
cookie WRAPPING STATION

Wrap up some cookies to take home or to give as gifts
“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”
2 Corinthians 9:15

“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”
2 Corinthians 9:15

“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”
2 Corinthians 9:15

“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”
2 Corinthians 9:15
pillow box template

Print one per guest. These will hold a set of Holiday Sticky Notes for the Soul - the gift of a No-Stress Christmas!

UNWRAP
The Greatest Gift
THIS YEAR-
more of Him!

use glue or double sided tape here
pillow box template

Print one per guest. These will hold a set of Holiday Sticky Notes for the Soul - the gift of a No-Stress Christmas!

Celebrate CHRIST
Print and cut out several tags to have at the Cookie Wrapping Station. Guests can wrap up plates of cookies and use a bit of twine or ribbon to attach a gift tag to give the cookies as gifts, to share the love of God with friends, neighbors, family this Christmas.

MERRY Christmas

Wishing you His unfaithing unbeatable unstoppable LOVE

UNWRAP The Greatest Gift THIS YEAR——more of Him!

GOD is with us

Celebrate CHRIST

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FOR A SANE & SACRED CHRISTMAS

Print this set of 25 Sticky Note Cards, one for each day in December.
For mirrors and sinks and dashboards, for pockets and walls and office cubicles.
For this Christmas.

Each card is an affirmation, a prayer, for each day this December.
They are quotes from The Greatest Gift & Unwrapping The Greatest Gift,
rewritten to be words that you can pray every day,
to help keep the focus, to Celebrate Christ!

DECEMBER 1

I am waiting for you, Lord.
I will not let December become about making a production—when it’s simply about not missing You, Lord.

Miracles happen whenever I look for shoots of Jesus’ love everywhere—because this grows deep roots in Jesus’ love for everyone.

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DECEMBER 2

I will not be driven by perfectionism or performance—because I was formed by Love, for Love.
I will simply Enjoy the Ministry of Presence today:
God’s presence, people’s presence, the present moment, the gift of now.
The greatest gift I can give back to our great God is to let His love make me glad.

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DECEMBER 3

I will rest today in the gift of His love for me. God’s love never stops looking for me, trying to find me and gently draw me back close to Him. No matter what the day holds, no matter how the season of my life unfolds, God holds & enfolds me.

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DECEMBER 4

I will let every flood of stress today be an invitation to get into the ark of my Savior. I will let every flood of trouble remake the topography of my soul into someone better—not bitter.

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DECEMBER 5

Today I will let myself not be overwhelmed with the season, but be overwhelmed with the goodness of God so I can overflow with the goodness of God to others. I will be experienced as a blessing by others—to the extent I have counted blessings & first experience myself as blessed. The greatest gift God graces a soul with is His own presence.

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DECEMBER 6

I will smile today, I will laugh, I will enjoy Him & now & amazing grace because God brings the weary women laughter! Laughter is His gift to me - oxygenated grace! No matter what happens today Jesus is the last word, and we rejoice and rejoice again and re-joy again because grace is our oxygen now.

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DECEMBER 7
When I feel worry today, this season, I will simply exhale.
Worry is belief gone wrong. Because you don’t believe that God will get it right.
And Peace is belief that exhales. Because you believe that God’s provision is everywhere - like air.
#Exhale

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DECEMBER 8
I will not climb any ladders today or this Christmas to impress anyone. There are no ladders to climb up, because Christ came down one to get me.
God doesn’t want to number my failures or count my accomplishments as much as He wants me to have an encounter with Him.

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DECEMBER 9
I will trust that no matter what intends to harm me today, God’s arms have me.
Today, this Advent - God is never absent, never impotent, never distant.
I can never be undone.
If God can transfigure the greatest evil into the greatest Gift, then He intends to turn whatever I’m experiencing now into a gift.

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DECEMBER 10
I will simply, lavishly, love today. God gives the commandment to love to me - and God gives God to keep the commandments for me. Loving Jesus and loving everyone are the biggest, grandest greatest gifts I can give back to God.

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DECEMBER 11
I will believe in God’s grace for impossible things today. Because no situation is more hopeless than my Savior is graceful. And no personal choice that muddied my life can ever trump the divine choice to wash my life clean. That is always the secret to unwrapping the biggest, greatest, grandest gift: believe that the love of Jesus is in the place where I don’t expect it.

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DECEMBER 12
I will trust that everything happening around me today, every day, is happening to make miracles. Every little thing is going to be okay, because God is working good through every little thing. There is never a night, never a darkness when gifts and miracles and joy aren’t coming - coming right to me.

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DECEMBER 13
Today, I will walk with Jesus & pray for my eyes to do the most miraculous things: to turn everything inside out. Let me see today, Lord: People care about the wrapping paper on the outside, but God cares about the gifts inside - the heart, which can wrap like love around everyone.

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DECEMBER 14
I will just keep turning to Jesus today, the only real Light in the whole world, and His light can always turn on inside of me. I am saved from the dark of lostness because God is love and He can’t stand to leave me by myself in the dark. It doesn’t matter how dark the dark is - Jesus comes to the darkest places so I can see His light the brightest.

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DECEMBER 15

I will not bow down
to pressures this Advent.
I will only bow down before You, Lord.
It’s the wavering between gods
that has me sinking. It’s the wavering
between the gods of things and
the God of everything -
that’s what has me flailing and
drowning soundless in it all.
Jesus, the gift, comes to give me freely
through His passion what every other god
forces me to get through performance.

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DECEMBER 16

I will give God the gift of repentance
today. Repentance, turning around,
is the only way for me to be
ushered into grace.
I am not equipped for my life until I
realize I’m not equipped for life.
I’m not equipped for life until I’m in
need of grace. I always get the greatest gift
when I turn around and go His way,
right toward the smiling ways of God.

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DECEMBER 17

I will not let worry overrule today
or this Christmas. When the King rules
my world, I cease to rule or to worry.
All worry dethrones God.
All worrying makes me King
& God incompetent.
I am going to trust that in the little places,
through unexpected people, His perfect
story is unfolding and unwrapping
all around me and in me,
the light overtaking the dark.

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DECEMBER 18

I will place all my worth this Christmas
in Christ.
When I unwrap my worth in the
Gift of Christ, I release my grip on all the other
gifts. I am loved and carried and secure,
and what else do I need when I have Him?
When I unwrap the unbeatable, unfailling,
unstopable love of Jesus, I laugh happiest:
I am free, free, free to happily give away
my gifts so other people can live!
This is the moment I was made for:
to use my gifts to give others the gift of life!

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DECEMBER 19

I will focus on Jesus today, just Jesus.

The secret of joy is always matter of focus: a resolute focusing on the Father, not on the fears.
And when I feel like I can't touch bottom is when I touch the depths of God.
If He gave His Son to save me, will He not give me everything I need?
I will Behold Him everywhere today - and be held.

DECEMBER 20

I don't have to work for the coming of the Lord - I don't have to work for Christmas. The miracle is always that God is gracious.

I always get my Christmas miracle. I get God with me. That's really all I have to get ready for Christmas - my heart.
So I will just come to Him just as I am. God gives Himself as the greatest Gift this Christmas, and He doesn't keep any truly good thing from me. Because the greatest things aren't things! Jesus is all good, and He is all mine, and this is always my miracle - my greatest Gift!

DECEMBER 21

I am most prepared for Christmas when I am done trying to make my performance into the gift instead of reveling in His presence as the Gift. That is all there is left in these last days of the Advent road - the sacredness of His presence saturating everything. And Jesus makes us all happy - the happiness of kids all tickled giddy! Because Jesus loves us 100% before we even do 1%. Prepare the way, not for more things, but for the greatest thing: Jesus is coming!

DECEMBER 22

I will simply become a place for God today. There is no need to produce or perform or perfect - simply become a place for God.
Christmas is conceived in my world when I simply receive it - however Christ and His will comes to me.
The miscarriage of Christmas begins when anxieties crowd out the space within simply to carry Christ.

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DECEMBER 23

I will hush away the hurry, the worry, today. We can always have as much of God as we want. God throws open the door of this world - and enters as a baby. As the most vulnerable imaginable. Because He wants unimaginable intimacy with me.

God. With. Me.

God can’t stay away. He disarms Himself of heaven so that I can take Him in arms on earth. Christmas is about God’s doing whatever it takes to be with me - and my doing whatever it takes to be with Him.

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DECEMBER 24

I will feel the weightlessness of the miracle of Christmas today.

Grace is weightless.

God comes as a Babe because Grace is weightless. Rejected at the inn, holy God comes in small to where I feel rejected & small. God is with me now. All of conquered heaven and grateful earth echo and throb today with the heart cry of the God-child:

I did it because I love you!

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DECEMBER 25

Today! I can have this as the best Christmas ever - as much as I gaze into my Father’s face & receive His gift. Everywhere, everywhere - there are gifts everywhere from Jesus.

Gifts are our air.

That’s what Jesus is whispering to me this Christmas Day: “I’ll take your broken heart & give you My whole one. I’ll take your burden-broken back & give you my weightlessness.” Christ came into the world for me - and I came into the world for Him. A heart that really loves Jesus could catch the world on fire with love & more love & even more love.

Christmas can go on forever now...

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