
CREATE A CHRISTMAS EVE OF DREAMS

Episode Description

Your Christmas Eve worship service is most likely the one service where you're most likely to get the most receptive visitors of the year. Although there's an expectation that the worship service will be all warm and fuzzy, many of those warm fuzzies come from an idealized Norman Rockwell-ian kind of memories. In this episode, Drs. Kris and Bill will offer recommendations that will change your visitors' "that was nice" experience to an impression-making memory that will last a lifetime.

Episode Outline

Although you never get a second chance to make a first impression, with any returning guest you always have an opportunity to create a new, lasting impression that can change the way they remember you.

The following is a composite of Christmas Eve services from churches we've experienced over the years. Although this might seem like a lot of work, churches that have adopted the package and incorporated the vision have experienced an increase in community interest.

The Christmas Eve Experience

Parking lot attendants

Victorian-style strolling carolers

Greeter Elves

Refreshments and Crafts

The "Envelope" – with instructions for the Magi and Contact Information Card

The Nativity photos

Ushers

The impromptu Christmas pageant

The Worship Service

The all-important hand-off

The visit of the Magi

Discussion Questions

We recommend showing this video to your Christmas Eve Planning Team and use the following planning handout to discuss what you'll implement this year and how you'll build into the next few years.

Christmas Eve Planning

Family-Friendly Worship Service Details

Time: _____

Don't Forget the Nursery!

Details:

Parking Lot Attendants

How many are needed? _____

Members parking:

Guest parking:

Details:

Victorian-Style Strolling Carolers

How many are needed? _____

Costume style:

Details:

Greeter Elves

How many are needed? _____

Costume style:

Responsibilities:

Details:

The "Envelope" – with Instructions and Contact Information Card

Who will distribute the envelopes?

Who will tabulate and make assignments for Magi teams?

Details:

Refreshments

How many servers are needed?

What refreshments will you serve?

Details:

Crafts

What age-graded crafts will you offer?

How many craft-elves will you need?

Details:

Nativity Photos

Who will be the photographer?

How will you correlate each image to each guest?

How many printer-elves will you need?

Details:

Ushers

How will you designate your ushers?

What responsibilities will ushers have?

Details:

Impromptu Christmas Pageant

What characters (parts) will the children play?

What characters will need to be pre-prepared?

How many costumers will you need?

How many directors/shepherds will you need?

Details:

The Worship Service

Details:

The All-Important Hand-Off

What will be your hand-off to encourage guests to return?

What will you send home in their hands to ensure they remember?

Details:

The Visit of the Magi

How many Magi teams will you need?

What will your Magi's "gift" include?

Details: