

Peace on Earth | Week #04

Over Before It Even Begins | December 17th and 20th

Anchor Verse: Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased. Luke 2:14

What's the Issue Anyway?

Christmas in the west is driven by a commercial not a _____ calendar.

Christmas is over before it even _____.

We miss the _____ power of the manger.

What wisdom does scripture offer us?

The Twelve Days of Christmas _____ a journey to _____. (Matthew 2:1-2)

The Twelve Days of Christmas gives _____ to the _____. (Proverbs 20:12)

The Twelve Days of Christmas _____ us peacemaking is dangerous _____. (John 5:17-18)

The Point: On December 25th stop the _____ and start the 12-day _____.

What about my every day, peacemaking life?

Pace yourself and light a _____ every day.

Join the Twelve Days of Christmas _____.

Plan an _____ party for January 6.

How can this make me a better human and our world a better place?

We will avoid the spiritual Christmas _____.

The manger has the opportunity to _____ us every year.

What is God inviting you into today?

1. This week I will turn in my pledge for the 2021 *Peace is Worth It!* ministry emphasis.
2. I will share the link and invite a friend to the Candlelight Watch Party.
3. Sign me up to receive the 12 Days of Christmas daily video devotions in my inbox.
4. Sign me up for the "Work of Christmas" Webinar on Tuesday, December 29th.

Thought Provoking Questions for Groups or Personal Reflection

1. Have you personally experienced the Christmas Crash? What did you feel like physically? Emotionally? Spiritually?
2. Why is it so easy for us to exchange the transforming power of Christmas for the goosebumps of Christmas Eve or the presents on Christmas morning?
3. What are some ways you could creatively celebrate the 12 Days of Christmas?
4. Why is the celebration of Epiphany so important to our understanding of God's work in the world?