



YES // Last Minute Christmas Resources / Ideas

For those of you receiving this e-news, I doubt very much that you will have left anything to the last minute and have all of your Christmas events / services / activities etc *sorted!* However, you might want to forward this to those less sorted individuals that you might know ;-)

The Digital Story of the Nativity

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GkHNNPM7pJA&feature=player_embedded

Imagine the story of the nativity simply told through 21st Century social media tools . . . very clever, worth a watch – and, if you have the facilities to download and play in church . . . a quick “thought” on how you might use it . . .

- Play the video then say . . . *the strap line at the end, “Times change . . . but feelings stay the same”.* Does not quite do it, clever though this video is. It should read “times change . . . the miracle stays the same.” And, the miracle of the incarnation is not some virtual story (cleverly narrated into a timeless classic) the miracle is God made man – not virtually, not digitally, not mythically, but literally – born as a baby, born as one of us . . . not to set a trend and get some followers on Twitter . . . his call to each one of us echoes down the years, His “follow me” if obeyed, has the power to transform our lives – and while times do change, our God does not and the gift of the Incarnation does not – we will share in the wonder of the first worshippers at the cradle? We might not be shepherds or magi, but we are invited not just to be part of greatest story ever told (using whatever media you fancy!) but we are invited to be part of Gods family, now, today . . . well, you get the point.

Zondervan Story Book Bible

http://www.youtube.com/user/Zondervancom#p/c/78CF6B8174D9BF64/1/v_QaCsdvQk

This is one to share with families at home, narrated by David Suchet, why not sit down and watch this together – the story of the nativity from the people at Zondervan publishing. The artwork is taken from the Zondervan “Jesus Story Book Bible” . . . for more on that, including free downloads and more video episodes from the life of Jesus, visit:

<http://www.jesusstorybookbible.com/index.php>

Christmas Unwrapped

<http://www.christmasunwrapped.org.uk>

From the Bible Society, another video telling the Christmas story – in about three minutes, this might be an ideal one to show on Christmas Day in church . . .

Christmas on ReJesus

<http://www.rejesus.co.uk>

One of the best websites for those exploring Christianity, or new to faith is ReJesus – if you visit the website over Christmas, you will find a host of Christmas related stuff to do (a nativity puzzle / a Christmas pub quiz / karaoke carols) . . .

Last Minute Christmas Session with your Youth Group!

<http://youthministry.com/freebies/small-groups/vantage-point-christmas-lesson>

YM360 is a great place for freebies – click the link above and you can download a zip file (when you have done that, right click and “extract all”) you get a PowerPoint presentation and some teaching notes for a Christmas session . . . *never* just use something “as is”, always adapt / edit for your group . . . but if the last couple of weeks has been crazy and some stuff has gone out of the window cause of the weather or whatever . . . this might lighten the load.