

LOVING MY ACTUAL CHRISTMAS

WELCOME

🕒 **Basic:** Christmas is a natural and expected time to talk about Jesus. Be bold and make plans to include him in your meeting, conversations and with your kids.

👉 **Fun:** The Twelve Days of Christmas – Act out the classic Christmas song. Have a mom represent each day and “perform” every time her part is sung.

👉 **Hospitality/Publicity:** Add some twinkle lights and greenery to reflect the Christmas season. Create a Hot Chocolate Bar for a fun twist on refreshments.

MEETING

🕒 **Think:** LOVING MY ACTUAL CHRISTMAS – Relish the Season and Find a Better Way to Do Christmas (21:30)

ALEXANDRA KUYKENDALL is a mom to four girls and an author who got her writing start at MOPS. She crafted an experiment to fully understand the Advent season because she wanted to do Christmas better. Consider how embracing the themes of hope, love, joy and peace will help us remember how the Christmas story changed history.

👉 **DO:** Advent Wreaths - Create an Advent wreath to help celebrate the meaning of Christmas.

👉 **FOR THE KIDS:** Create a Hope Chain to help kids focus on the spirit of Christmas.

See our handout “Stewarding the Story” for tips on engaging your children in the Christmas story.

CONNECTION

🕒 **Talk:** Use these questions along with the *Finding Your Wings Video Story* to start conversation around your table.

- Have you ever wondered if there’s a better way to do Christmas? Share about a Christmas that was either extremely stressful or extremely meaningful.
- Share ideas for doing Christmas in a way that preserves your money, time and family.
- What are your big rocks during this season?
- What can you do to honor your extended family members this year?
- What are you hoping for this Christmas?

👉 **Connect:** Host a cookie exchange for your table or invite just one mom over to make cookies together.

Take some time for family connection and see *The Star: The Story of the First Christmas* in theaters this holiday season.

thestarmovie.com