



For many people, the busiest days of the year are between Thanksgiving and Christmas. We're busy putting up the tree and decorating, rushing around and fighting crowds as we shop for gifts, then wrapping presents, sending packages and mailing Christmas cards. It's fun, but it can be exhausting!

Yes, we're busy, but we must not let the hustle and bustle of the season distract us from the true meaning of Christmas: celebrating the birth of God's Son, Jesus! Don't forget that the reason for the season is Christ the Lord!

If you need help clearing your mind of the distractions of today and focusing on the events that happened over 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem, this handy "Keep Christ in Christmas" Commitment Card can be a useful tool. The card lists suggested Bible verses for your reading and study, or to use in daily devotions.

Many of us need a little extra motivation, or accountability, so on the reverse side of this card you can also make a written promise to God that you will make every effort to "Keep Christ in Christmas." The card is yours to keep: it's a very private thing between you and God.

May God bless you as you celebrate Christmas this year.

## "Keep Christ In Christmas" Commitment Card

### Verses About The Birth of Jesus

**Matthew 1:1-17** – Genealogy of Jesus

**Matthew 1:18-25** – Joseph and Mary were betrothed /engaged, and an angel appears to Joseph in a dream.

**Luke 1: 26-56** – The angel Gabriel appears to Mary, and Mary visits Elizabeth.

**Luke 2:1-7** - Jesus is born in Bethlehem.

**Luke 2:8-20** – An angel announces the birth of Jesus to shepherds, and the shepherds run to Bethlehem to see the new-born Messiah.

**Matthew 2:1-12** – The wise men bring gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh (Jesus was a child by this time).

### Key Prophecies in the Old Testament

**Isaiah 7:14** - "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."

**Isaiah 9:6** - "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

**Micah 5:2** - "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

### My Commitment To God (And My Family)

No matter how busy I get with the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season, I will not be distracted from this commitment: I vow to "Keep Christ In Christmas." I promise to read and study the verses in the Bible that tell the story of the birth of Jesus, and if I have a family, to also help them to "Keep Christ In Christmas" through family readings of scripture and daily devotions. God, please help me honor this promise and commitment.