



Leader Guide

Contents

Introduction

Ideas for Creating Family Kits

Planning Timelines and Checklists

Decorating Ideas

Introduction

Connected Christmas: A Family Experience Kit is designed to help families in your church intentionally draw closer to each other and to God during the Christmas season. This kit will make it easy for you to equip families with resources that help them build relationships and connect!

Connected Christmas is a downloadable digital kit for your church that includes:

- Resources for 4 weeks (episodes) to help families connect. Each at-home episode has its own “connected” theme, an engaging Bible story video, a Bible memory verse, conversation starters, and 5 fun activity ideas for families to do together.
- An all-church family event—The *Connected Christmas* Celebration. This event will help you celebrate with families in your church as they gather and connect with each other and with God.

We’ve tried to keep this simple—both for you and the families you serve. In the Leader Guide, we’ve included helps for planning, promoting, and providing resources to families for both the at-home episodes and the all-church family event. Be sure to give your event team leaders access to the resources they’ll need for planning and carrying out the event. (We’ll give you reminders along the way for doing this.)

It’s going to be a very merry *Connected Christmas*! We hope you’re ready to join in, connect with families, and help them connect with each other and with God.

What You Send to Families

For each episode of *Connected Christmas*, you’ll be sending families a Bible story video, a Parent Note, and the Overview and Activity Ideas.

Parent Notes that are emailed (or printed and provided as handouts or in Family Kits) will be your way to give families all the great resources for each episode of *Connected Christmas*. Use the Parent Notes provided and modify them to include your church’s information.

The Overview and Activity Ideas for each episode can be given to families either digitally or physically (see Ideas for Creating Family Kits). The activities will help families apply and live out each “connected” theme. Families can watch the Bible story video and then do 1 activity each day of the week (like Advent activities!), or they can do all the activities on 1 day.

It’s important for families to know there’s no pressure to complete every activity. In fact, we’ve provided so many activity options that we don’t even want families to do them all. We want families to choose the activities that will work best for them and their schedules.

If you think certain activities won't work well for families in your context, you can tweak the activities ahead of time. You might want to provide just the Quick Options or add activities your families would be more likely to do and enjoy. The activities provided are geared toward elementary-age kids, but you can include families with kids of any age, from toddlers to teens! Encourage families with kids of all ages to participate.

Supply Lists are included with each activity so families can get the supplies they need for the activities they choose. See [Ideas for Creating Family Kits](#) for a list of supplies you may want to provide for the families in your church.