



5 TIPS FOR A FRESH CHRISTMAS SERMON

FIND NEW INSPIRATION FOR YOUR
CHRISTMAS SERMON

Introduction

Whether you're a seasoned pastor or fresh out of seminary, preaching a Christmas sermon can be daunting. One of the largest challenges preachers face this time of year is finding real inspiration to preach a "fresh" take on the [Christmas story](#).

It may be easier to dust off that old cookie cutter sermon and punch out another typical Christmas service. But let's be honest: **If it doesn't inspire you, it won't inspire your visitors.**

What's a preacher to do? Of course whenever we ask that question, we turn to all the great resources at [SermonCentral.com](#). That's what we've done to give you this list of 5 tips to inspire you to dig deeper for that awesome one-of-a-kind Christmas sermon we know only you can give!

-The SermonCentral Team

#1 Trust the power of the “same old” story.

[Recommended Article: A Novel Idea for Preaching Christmas](#)

While the biblical text for the Christmas story may seem tired and old to you, it isn't necessarily old to your congregation. According to [H.B. Charles, Jr.](#), “We assume our congregations know the biblical story and doctrinal meaning of Christmas. So we avoid major texts and look for something new or novel to say about the old, old story. But this is a bad assumption. We live in a culture where biblical illiteracy is growing rapidly.”

There are the strong reasons why the [Lectionary/Liturgical Calendar tool](#) calls for passages out of Luke--

“Your congregation is excited to hear the lasting truths of the story of Christmas.”

the timeless account! Your congregation is excited to hear the lasting truths of the story of Christmas. And whether it's nostalgic or brand new to your listeners, simply trust the power of the greatest story ever told! What a great opportunity to help your listeners learn the powerful story of God coming to Earth as a baby!

Don't believe it? [Check out this 1,700-year-old Christmas sermon.](#)

#2 Approach the Christmas story with imagination and appreciation.

[Recommended Article: Christmas: Not A Time For Inventing Twists On The Age-Old Story](#)

In other words, if you're bored by the "same old" Christmas story, your listeners will be bored, too. SermonCentral contributor Joe McKeever, a preacher with over 50 years of ministry, says, "Tell it with gusto and love. Tell the story of the birth of Jesus with all the excitement of someone hearing it for the first time. Tell the story without detouring into theories and guesses and myths and controversies."

To do this well, [McKeever](#) suggests that you consider how all the people in the story felt at the time. Why not seek to evoke those feelings for your listeners as well? And secondly, McKeever advises focusing on something you may've wondered as your starting point for digging into the wonder of the Christmas story.

A SermonCentral sermon that does this really well is [Dwight Gunter II's "Extraordinary Things Can Happen \(The Miracle of Christmas\)"](#) that's part of the [Christmas WonderPak](#).



To simplify your favorite sermons or illustrations: You can access the new SermonFolder feature that helps you easily keep everything in one place for free. [Click here for an easy to follow video showing how to use SermonFolders!](#)

#3 Preach the Christmas story like it really matters... Because it does!

[Recommended Article: Christmas Preaching Needs Resurrecting!](#)

[Chris Surber](#), a pastor and SermonCentral contributor writes, "We who are called to proclaim the truth of that message can't allow it to become so commonplace that we lose passion for familiarity with the terms and the story. We can't forget the importance of the incarnation or of His coming or allow the people to whom we preach to do the same."

Further, [Surber makes the point](#) that our entire faith is built on this story of God who became man on that star-lit night. "We've got to resurrect Christmas,"

Surber says, "because the power of the resurrection is only available to those who understand the incarnation."

"We've got to resurrect Christmas," Surber says, "because the power of the resurrection is only available to those who understand the incarnation."

#4 Find Christmas sermon inspiration from others.

[SermonCentral](#) has over 160,000 free gospel-based sermons, over 50,000 text illustrations, and new articles every day. If you find yourself stuck, you're not alone. Don't be afraid to reach out and get some inspiration from other pastors working through similar challenges.

In addition to sermons and articles SermonCentral has a vast library of media to help build your Christmas service. Take a look at these videos to add some levity to your Christmas service: "[The Christmas Connection](#)" and "[Christmas Chaos](#)"

Want to share your sermons?

SermonCentral's goal helping pastors preach better is only possible because generous pastors around the world submit their own sermons and illustrations.

[Click here if you want to contribute some of your own sermons and help other pastors find inspiration!](#)

#5 Preach the Christmas narrative from a unique perspective.

SermonCentral contributor [Peter Mead](#) suggests the following: "Consider the possibility of preaching the emphasis of the text from the perspective of a contemporary character – Anna, Simeon, a shepherd, and more. Consider a bit of 'in hindsight' first person preaching – Joseph looking back or Luke having done his research."

SermonCentral contributor [Ray Hollenbach](#) offers inspiration to preach "[Four Christmas Sermons From the Life of Joseph](#)" and "[10 Christmas Sermon Starters From the Life of Mary](#)."

Conclusion

We hope these 5 tips will help you prepare an amazing Christmas sermon that changes your listeners' lives. It's easy to get overwhelmed this time of year, but remember that you've got a really important job. And we're here to help you!

We hope you're able to use the numerous FREE tools on SermonCentral to simplify your sermon prep this Christmas. If you're looking for even more help, [sign up for a free 14-day trial of SermonCentral PRO](#).

With a full PRO account you get unlimited access to:

- Over 1,000 video illustrations
- Over 850 PowerPoint templates
- Over 120 worship music videos
- Over 40 countdown, service starters
- Over 350 motion backgrounds
- Over 700 still backgrounds
- Over 1,000 royalty-free images
- Weekly staff prepared preaching bundles
- Lectionary calendar sermon search
- Sermons viewed easily on one page
- Access to download sermons in PDF form
- Complete access to top-rated text illustrations
- Easy organization with unlimited SermonFolders

Start Your FREE 14 Day Trial Today!

Sermon  Central