

### BE THE LIGHT

## Featuring:

Loads of ideas of how to put your faith in to action this Christmas

Suggestions for random acts of Christmas kindness

Ideas for you to do on your own



# What could you do this Christmas to 'be the light' in your community?

#### WHY BE THE LIGHT?

So often the focus of Christmas is far away from the true amazing message of Jesus' birth. Somewhere behind all the food, wrapping paper and gifts the message that at Christmas God came to earth to rescue us is often lost. By being the 'light' in your community you can help to make Jesus known and take a first step towards sharing your faith with someone.

#### WHY IDEAS FOR INDIVIDUALS?

We've already shared some great ideas of what you could do this Christmas in a small group, but getting together with others at this busy time of year isn't always practical for everyone, so these ideas are more focused on doing alone, as a family or in a pair.

One advantage of doing something as a group is it's

easier to be brave together! As an individual you can combat this by making yourself accountable to someone else. Tell someone what you're planning and get them to check back that you've done it!

#### **DON'T FORGET TO PRAY**

Whatever you do, don't forget why you are doing it! Bring your plans to God and pray about them, pray for spiritual

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conversations, pray for deepened relationships and pray that you might be bold for Jesus.

#### **GIVE OUT CANDY CANES**

If you have been in the Beacon Sunday morning congregations recently, you may have noticed A LOT of candy canes! Did you know the 'legend' of the candy cane actually has a basis in the symbolism of the birth of Jesus. Why not give out candy canes to friends and family this year and be brave and give them a brief account of the real reason for Christmas?

#### **GIVE AN UNEXPECTED GIFT**

We all live, work or play in some kind of community whether that is your neighbourhood, the office, the playground parents or your wider family. What unexpected gift could you give? I don't mean to those who might be expecting something, but something unexpected. Perhaps a meal for the expectant mother and family? An evening of company for an elderly neighbour? A small hamper for a colleague? Something that will be an unexpected blessing, and don't forget to be ready with an answer as to what motivated you to do something different!

#### **CHRISTMAS DINNER GUEST**

Christmas can be a difficult time for many due to personal circumstances, bad memories or missing loved ones. Why not add an extra guest to your normal celebrations? It takes very little effort to add one more plate at the table, but it can make a huge impact to someone who might otherwise be alone on Christmas Day.

#### SEND CARDS

Christmas is a traditional time for card sending, but make an extra effort this year, perhaps not to everyone, but for a select few write something more significant than 'Merry Christmas' and your name. Say 'thank you' to someone, tell a struggling parent you think they're doing a great job, be honest, ask God to guide you as to who to write to and what to say and pray for the receiver of your card.

#### CHANNEL YOUR 'INNER SANTA'

Because of Jesus Christmas is the most joyful time, show that in your actions, thoughts and words. So 'be a light' to all around you, be deliberate and be joyful in all circumstances! Pray for opportunities to share your faith, that others might meet our King!!

