



a d v e n t C O N S P I R A C Y

LifeGroup Study Guide

Christmas.

How is that what should be one of the most meaningful events in the lives of Christ-followers has been reduced to a consumer driven, frantic extravaganza that leaves our minds, hearts, bodies and bank accounts drained? Even though we fight it with our bumper sticker theology that “*Jesus is the Reason for the Season*”, year after year many of us participate in Christmas with Christ being little more than an afterthought.

What if it could be different? What if we could re-engage the Christmas story in a new way – or better yet, an old way? What would it look like to break free of our cultural shackles and be set free to experience and celebrate Christmas in a way that represents the actual meaning of Christmas?

We want this year to be different. That’s why we’re excited to join in on the Advent Conspiracy.

What is the Advent Conspiracy?

Advent Conspiracy is an international movement restoring the scandal of Christmas by substituting compassion for consumption. It is a catalyst to help churches and organizations equip their people to engage in the Christmas story in a way that will transform their people and as a result bring transformation to the world through their people, as the worship Christ at Christmas.

At its heart, it is an attempt to participate in Christmas in such a way that our participation is a reflection of the event, and the Person being celebrated.

To do this, we are inviting you into four aspects of the Advent Conspiracy:

- Real Worship
- Resisting the Empire
- Relational Giving
- Redistribution of Wealth

We want to help you really worship Christ this season. We want to see you do it in such a way that the Kingdom of God is manifested, challenging the power structures of our world. We want to see you be incarnational in your gift giving this year. And we want to make a visible, physical impact on the world by taking an offering on Christmas that will be a blessing. Our offering will go to help dig a well, providing clean drinking water. It will help develop our partnership in Liberia with a Medical Doctor who is establishing a medical clinic. This year, we want to give the gift of life just as we were given the gift of life.