

BE A DOER!

The best way to show your love for the Savior, at Christmastime or any other time, is to go and do what He taught.

Despite the festivities, fun, and material distractions of the holidays, most of us still hear a lot about the Savior at Christmastime. We *hear* about shepherds rushing to see a holy baby born in a stable. We *hear* of Wise Men guided by a new star. We *hear* carols about choirs of angels and joy to the world.

What we *hear* should create feelings of reverence, respect, and happiness. But if all we do is *hear*, aren't we missing something?

HOW TO BE A DOER

In the New Testament, James teaches a principle that may be especially important at this time of year: "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only." In fact, James says, those who hear but don't do quickly forget, while those who *hear and do* are blessed (see James 1:22–25). So what can you do to be a *doer*?

Here's a simple way to begin.



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CHOOSE ONE WAY TO A BRIGHTER DAY

Just choose one thing the Savior taught, and then do something based on that teaching. Even if you can do only one thing this Christmas season, do it, and you'll feel closer to the Savior. Then, if you find it helpful, do more. You can use the ideas on the next page—or follow this pattern—all year long, as you go and do what the Savior taught.

Light THE World

25 DAYS, 25 WAYS TO LIGHT THE WORLD

For each December day until Christmas, a teaching of Jesus Christ is highlighted, followed by a question and a suggestion.

1
FRI

MATTHEW 10:8

"Freely ye have received, freely give."

What can you sacrifice today to make someone else's life better?

Put down the electronics and spend some quality time with family or friends.

5
TUE

MATTHEW 15:4

"Honour thy father and mother."

Need some meaningful advice about something you're dealing with?

Ask your parents. You can benefit from their wisdom.

6
WED

MATTHEW 7:1

"Judge not, that ye be not judged."

Do you find yourself thinking negative things about others?

Instead of saying mean things behind people's backs, say nice things.

7
THU

MARK 10:14

"Suffer the little children to come unto me."

How could you make a child's day?

Make plans and take time to help a child feel special.

8
FRI

MATTHEW 5:44

"Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you."

Know someone who's difficult to get along with?

For an entire week, focus on being kind instead of right.

12
TUE

MATTHEW 5:4

"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted."

Do you know someone who's recently lost a loved one?

Offer to provide comfort and a listening ear.

13
WED

MATTHEW 7:12

"All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

Have you seen someone get bullied on social media?

Reach out to them today and send some positive vibes in their direction.

14
THU

MATTHEW 6:21

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Are you spending time on the things you value most?

Clear some space on your calendar to invest in some one-on-one time with someone you love.

15
FRI

MATTHEW 5:7

"Blessed are the merciful."

Know a family struggling to make ends meet?

Come up with a plan to make their Christmas special and then fulfill your plan.

19
TUE

MATTHEW 5:12

"Rejoice, and be exceeding glad."

When was the last time you celebrated someone else's accomplishments?

Find somebody who doesn't receive thanks that often, and make their day amazing.

20
WED

LUKE 12:15

"A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

Who has made your life more meaningful?

Give the gift of time. Plan something to do together with them and make a new memory.

21
THU

MATTHEW 6:14

"Forgive men their trespasses."

Does someone really get on your nerves?

Write down all of that person's positive qualities, and then try to imagine how God sees that person.

22
FRI

3 NEPHI 27:21

"That which ye have seen me do even that shall ye do."

Who is the most Christlike person you know?

Send a note of appreciation expressing your gratitude for their example.

2
SAT

MATTHEW 25:35

“For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink.”

Have you ever been really hungry?

Donate some of your favorite nonperishable items to a food bank in your area.

3
SUN

MATTHEW 12:12

“Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days.”

How can you make better use of your time on Sundays?

Identify something from a talk you heard at church that you can do to help someone in need. Then do it.

4
MON

MATTHEW 22:39

“Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.”

Who in the neighborhood is forgotten during Christmas?

Pay them a visit and bring them some homemade goodies.

9
SAT

MATTHEW 25:36

“I was sick, and ye visited me.”

Did you know that many of those in nursing homes never have a visitor during their stay?

Visit a senior center today and provide some much-needed attention.

10
SUN

JOHN 5:39

“Search the scriptures.”

Do you have a favorite scripture?

Share it with friends and family on social media.

11
MON

MATTHEW 25:35

“I was a stranger, and ye took me in.”

How can you help refugees in your area?

Visit IWAsAStranger.lds.org and get involved.

16
SAT

MATTHEW 25:36

“[I was] naked, and ye clothed me.”

Do you or those around you have more than you need to stay warm?

Collect old (or new) winter coats, gloves, and hats for your local homeless shelter.

17
SUN

3 NEPHI 18:21-22

“Pray in your families. . . . Ye shall meet together oft.”

Has it been a while since you came together as a family?

Sunday is a great day for family time. Schedule time to share your favorite Christmas memories with each other.

18
MON

3 NEPHI 18:15

“Ye must watch and pray always.”

Has something small or big worked out for you today?

Recognize God's blessings by giving thanks to Him.

23
SAT

MATTHEW 25:36

“I was in prison, and ye came unto me.”

Does someone you know seem discouraged?

Go for a walk with them. Spend most of your time just listening.

24
SUN

MATTHEW 21:13

“It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer.”

When was the last time you prayed with your family?

Pray with your family over dinner or before you go to bed tonight.

25
MON

MATTHEW 5:16

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

What's one way Jesus Christ has been an example in your life?

On social media, share one of Christ's teachings that has blessed you.

Find additional ideas at Mormon.org.

