

Let's Talk CHANGE DEVOTIONALS



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WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING?

Dr. Vanessa Dantzler Ussery | December 5, 2018



Christmas carols, food, gifts, parties, and family gatherings are just a few of the activities going on this time of year. Many people are feeling generous at this time and do kind acts toward others. The spirit of giving is often in abundance, as well as the expectation to receive. For some it's the most awkward time of year and leads many to feelings of depression and even suicide. So the thought came to me what are we celebrating?

When I talk to various people the bulk of the conversation is what they are doing with their friends and family, where they are having dinner, what they are having for dinner, and of course the biggest question has been, "have you finished your Christmas shopping yet?" Once again, the thought comes to my mind what are we celebrating? Others spend time trying to persuade many that Christmas is a pagan holiday. So I ask again, what are we celebrating? I have been to the grocery store and mall and no one has mentioned Jesus or His birth being pertinent to our salvation at all. But I have heard many people mention Santa Claus. Oh, that's right it was mentioned at church this past Sunday or will be mentioned this coming Sunday when we all go to church in our new outfits. And for many who do not attend church, it will never be mentioned at all. I wonder how many children think more about Santa this time of year to receive gifts under their tree rather than think of Jesus coming to earth as the greatest gift given to mankind from the Father.

I believe it's good to have a day on our calendar to remember the birth of our Savior. However, if it's not highlighted during this season in our homes and in our conversation with our family, children, friends, and acquaintances then I must ask again, what are we celebrating?

Granted this has become one of the most commercialized holidays on the calendar. However, as God's people we must continue to tell the good news of Jesus and not wait until we get to church for Christmas service to hear about it. We sing "Go Tell It on the Mountain", but who have you told it to this season? What are we celebrating? We must never forget that Jesus was born to die so we might live. We should be celebrating His birth because it was the beginning of the end of the reign of sin in the lives of mankind. Praise God for the birth of Jesus, God's only Son who brings Peace and Glad Tidings to all who receive Him! That's what we should be celebrating!!!!

Residing in Los Angeles, CA, Dr. Vanessa Dantzler Ussery is the Emeritus Pastor of Home Assembly Church in Los Angeles, is the founder of "Celebrate Change Ministries" and the author of "My Be Attitude: Who Be You?", which is available online in softcover or eBook at MyBeAttitude.org, Xulon Press, Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Dr. Ussery is available for national speaking engagements, empowerment seminars, and lectures. For more information, CelebrateChange.org | Info@CelebrateChange.org | 310-436-6336 x216.

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