



THE CORNERSTONE

a ministry on the move

Don't Forget Those in Need

Right after Thanksgiving we will begin our annual collections for the homeless, foster children, and nursing home residents. Bring any of the following items to our studios, and we will make sure they get into the hands of those who need them most.

Items we are looking for include:

- Shampoos & Soaps • Socks & Lotions
- Lap Blankets • Robes & Slippers
- Blankets (new & used) • New Toys
- Gift cards for foster teens

Do you have one of these? Stop by The Cornerstone studios and pick one up for YOUR car. Keep Christ in our community's Christmas!



4295 Ridgewood Avenue
Port Orange, FL 32127

We thank God for:

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Merry Christmas

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The Cornerstone
Music with a Message
www.wjlu.org

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Adams Cameron Realtors

From the ocean to the mainland, and the river in between, your 1st call in real estate..."

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The Cornerstone Family of Stations



- On your FM dial
- 89.7 WJLU**
New Smyrna Beach
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Flagler Beach
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- 97.3**
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- 102.7**
Deltona
- 101.3**
St. Augustine
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Greater Daytona
Beach

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

By Bill Powell



Jingle Bells - shot gun shells - bee bees, oops wrong lyrics. How about *I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas* or Alvin and the Chipmunks singing, *Christmas Christmas Time is Here*. You know, Christmas really has a split personality. Christmas is both secular and religious. The secular side is sleigh rides (well maybe not in Florida), Christmas lights, candy canes and Christmas trees. Christmas is fruit cake (ugh), giving gifts and celebrating with family. It's Snoopy and Charlie Brown, and for many, Santa Claus and

Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer.

I have to admit there is controversy for many Christians about Santa Claus, especially the part about not telling children he isn't real. I think it's important to realize that the secular side of Christmas is tradition that people adopted from the homeland of their ancestors. As our country began, we needed some traditions that would help unify us as a new and independent nation. If we put it into perspective, in balance, it is a good thing. Although many of the traditions do go back to pagan worship, none today see them as worship - just tradition. Let's not forget about Scrooge. He seemed to not be happy unless he was miserable and making everyone around him miserable. Don't forget the side of Christmas that is helping and sharing with others less fortunate. Why not embrace the secular side of Christmas? Get in the spirit, have some fun, rejoice and take a little time off from the rat race of life and all the troubles around us. Make some cookies, give a gift, make a snowman (oops, sorry again), don't be a Scrooge. Look, I realize some of you are going through tough times. This is also a time to spread some Christmas cheer to those less fortunate.



WARNING

As Christians, the religious side of Christmas is the real reason for the season. We should be careful to not get lost in the world and all the delicacies that surround the secular side of the holiday. Balance is something that needs to be applied. I have to admit I like the trappings of the secular side of Christmas, but the Christ-centered Christmas is where the real joy to the world comes from. Just think, the Christmas story is real and true. It may not have happened on December 25th, but it did happen. Jesus was born of a virgin and they laid Him in a manger because there was no room at the inn. God who made the heaven and the earth was born a babe and lived and dwelt among us. O come let us adore Him! What a night that must have been. I love the words to the song "Mary Did You Know?" Wow, can you imagine how Mary and Joseph felt? Emmanuel

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It's the most wonderful time continued from page 2

God with us then and even now He is with us, Glory in the highest. The world around us is spinning out of control, but please purpose in your heart to enjoy Christmas. Share the love of Christ. Do good unto others. Be a blessing to someone. Try to put your troubles aside if at all possible and realize Jesus is coming again, and it may be sooner rather than later. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and don't forget "Tis the Season to be Jolly".

From my family to yours,
Merry Christmas



CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

Christmas carols, Christmas lights, manger scenes, the Christmas story, Christmas trees, beautifully wrapped Christmas presents, Christmas parties! These are just a few of the many aspects of the Christmas season! Like most families, my family loves Christmastime and we have a variety of traditions that we enjoy every year. We spend hours driving around various neighborhoods looking for great light displays and the latest Christmas yard decorations. We love to read the Christmas story throughout the month and think about what it must have been like to be one of the shepherds on the hillside tending their sheep when the angels appeared. What a wonderful joy we have to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and the coming of the Messiah! I'm often reminded of the words of the angel

Gabriel when he instructed Joseph to name the special child Jesus. He said he would save his people from their sin. That message is truly the greatest message we can consider this time of year. One of my family's favorite traditions is setting up our collection of manger scenes in various places around our home. I love it because every time I see one of the sets I'm reminded again that he came to save me from my sin and now each day is more meaningful because I can seek to live out each moment for his glory! As we prepare to wrap up 2015 with Christmas and New Year's celebrations we pray the Lord's peace, love and hope on you and your family! It's our desire that this ministry will continue to be a source of joy for you in the days ahead, and remember how much we love and pray for you all!

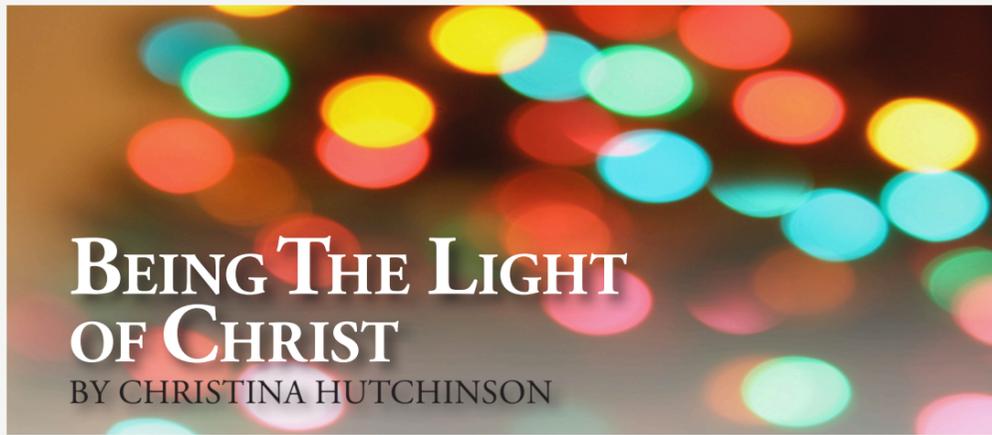


PRAYER CORNER

Remember to pray for and reach out to the less fortunate this season. There are many alone or in homeless shelters, and they need our prayers and love.

"THE ONLY CONSTANT IN LIFE IS CHANGE"

After many years of broadcasting, Moody is retiring the "Midday Connection" program. With that in mind, we are working on some new and exciting programming for 1:00 pm every weekday on WMFJ. Keep your ears open for timeless wisdom from Elizabeth Elliot and others!



BEING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

BY CHRISTINA HUTCHINSON



With Christmas coming up, Christmas lights will be hung around almost every neighborhood. As you pass by them, your mind probably gets flooded with many memories associated with them from your childhood. Those memories bring you joy, and as you share them with your children or grandchildren, it's almost as if you're reliving those moments. As Christians, we're called to be the light of Christ to others. Matthew 5:16 says "let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven." I often think back to my childhood during this time of year. I remember how mesmerized I was by Christmas lights. I loved helping my dad and my other three siblings to hang them up. I wanted our house to be the brightest on the street. In the same way, our desire should be to let our light shine brighter and brighter to others around us! We get the joy of watching them become mesmerized, and all the glory goes to God!

WILL THERE BE STARBUCKS IN HEAVEN?

BY DONNA BRAMLETT



There is no shortage of Christmas stories, serious and silly; classic and modern; movies, poems, novels, and animated. It is a holiday that has stirred our hearts and warmed our souls for generations, but I'm afraid in recent years it's been reaching levels of ridiculous my grandparents would never have conceived. From Target's attempt to purge the word "Christmas" from their shelves to Starbucks' blank red cup, the absurdity knows no bounds. And let's just put a picture on social media and see how many people will rant on both sides of the debate. Things like, "If your faith is shaken by a red cup, it isn't very strong," and "Starbucks is trying to destroy Christmas" are being shared and liked from page to page, and Starbucks just rakes in the dollars. Can we just take a step back here? Do I need Starbucks to validate my love for Christmas? Do I need to drink Starbucks coffee if I think they're crazy? Most companies are perfectly happy heaping up those Christmas dollars so long as they don't have to actually say *Christmas*. But will any of this matter when I sit in my spruce and ivy decked living room on Christmas Day? Not to me.

For us as Christians, regardless of how the holiday started or what it has morphed into in this kooky world, we still see Christ. That's all that matters. Christ. He came in the form of man, leaving His magnificent glory behind, and became the atoning sacrifice we needed. I love that. I want everyone to know about it, at Christmas, Easter, Groundhog Day, Labor Day, every glorious, hope-filled day. Personally, I can do perfectly well without Starbucks, but I cannot live apart from Christ. These issues are just opportunities for the world to stir up dissension during what should be a peaceful, joy-filled season. Let's just let the world rage around us if it must, as we curl up with our Savior and relish the inexpressible gift of salvation. Many blessings on you and your loved ones this Christmas season!



100% Christmas Music

From now through Christmas, tune into The Cornerstone for the best Christmas classics - both new and old.