



[ADVENT CONSPIRACY] WHAT IS IT?

Advent Conspiracy is an international movement restoring the scandal of Christmas by worshipping Jesus through compassion, not consumption. Christ tends to get overlooked at Christmas. Let's be honest. December comes and you think, "Ok, this is the year." This time you swear you'll slow down and take it all in. Make the most with family. Help the needy. Zero in on what it really means to be a Christ follower during this Holy Season.

What if you could inspire your church, your family and yourself to avoid being consumed by commercialism this Christmas?

**WORSHIP MORE
SPEND LESS
GIVE MORE
LOVE ALL**

The logo for Advent Conspiracy, featuring a decorative flourish above the word "advent" in a serif font, with "CONSPIRACY" in a smaller, spaced-out sans-serif font below it.

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

[VISIT] WWW.ADVENTCONSPIRACY.ORG

The Advent Conspiracy is an opportunity to live the message of Christmas by re-engaging with Christ. We realize this is a different kind of commitment; a radical commitment. We are committing to four themes in the Advent Conspiracy.

Worship: The central theme is that Jesus is worshipped in such a way that his followers experience the power of Christ coming into the world. We commit to worshipping Christ in a holistic way rather than worshipping the consumerist impulses of our culture.

Resisting the Empire: Christ's birth was a threat to Herod and his empire, because Herod demanded total allegiance. Today, we are asked to pledge allegiance to the empire of consumerism and materialism. The National Retail Federation was forecasting that Americans would spend approximately \$457.4 billion at Christmas in 2006. The American Research group estimated an average of \$907.00 per family to be spent at Christmas in 2006. We commit to rejecting over-spending and over-consuming. We commit to living a different message.

Relational Giving: The gift of Jesus was a relational gift from a relational God. We commit to giving meaningful gifts: pictures, poems, pieces of art, a baseball bat and a trip to the park to play. The essential aspect is that we give our time and ourselves to each other.

Re-Distribution: As we worship, resist consumerism and give relationally, we realize that we can give in a tangible way to make things better for people. We commit to using the money that we would normally spend on Christmas to help bring life to those who truly need it.

We conspire for water. It is truly fitting that through the Advent Conspiracy, Jacob's Well will redistribute our money to bring fresh water to those who need it. According to the World Water Council, 1.1 billion people live without clean drinking water; 2.6 billion people lack adequate sanitation; 1.8 million people die every year from diarrheal diseases and 3,900 children die every day from water born diseases. Jesus' birth signals abundant life and we want to share Christ's abundant life by giving the gift of water.