[**What's the Point of Christmas?**](http://www.womensradio.com/account/articles/7721.html)
Love--it's a state of being, not doing

There is only one point to [Christmas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christmas) - Love. That's it. Nothing else. Anything else is fluff, superfluous, extraneous and complicates the issue.

Recently a friend of mine had a mini breakdown about Christmas arrangements. She happens to be recently employed in another city which is a 4 hour drive from her home. Her husband is still in the first home awaiting the sale. Her parents are in a third city which is also a 4 hour drive from either of her locations. She has to work through December 23, then drive back to the homestead to do Christmas. How she is going to put on Christmas for 7 people including housing them put her over the edge; and well it should. It's time to let go of how it used to be and create a whole new way of celebrating Christmas.

Over the years we develop "traditions" which tend to become rituals of routine that enslave us, obliterating the original idea. I'm reminded of a story I heard about a lady who routinely cut off the ends of her pork roast. She had learned it from her mother. She did it without question until one day her daughter asked her why she did that. Turns out the reason for cutting the ends of the roast off was because her mother's pan wasn't large enough...

When my friend was a child, her mother and grandmother shared the kitchen. There was the usual Christmas tree, her Dad did the external lights, and Mom and Gram did all the homemade baking of traditional breads and cookies. One year there were 21 different kinds of cookies. To my friend, this was "how you do Christmas". It was a lot of work, done over weeks of time by two women who didn't work outside the home.

It was time for my friend to rethink the whole deal.

Times and situations change. What does not change is the reason we get together, which is Love. Would it matter one whit if they ate at Denny's or ordered in a pizza or at peanut butter and jelly sandwiches?

I remember the very last Christmas my grandmother was alive. For some reason my mother decided to do it differently. Everyone came in from all parts of the country, including the great grandchildren. Christmas dinner was ordered in from the local restaurant. The hours that would have been spent with the ladies in the kitchen separated from the men in the den watching television were transformed into communal conversations, games, walks and naps. When the food arrived, we simply took the foil off the cartons, served it on the huge table already set and enjoyed each others' Presence. Everyone agreed that it was the best Christmas we ever did together.

Let yourself and everyone else off the hook. Go back to the original intention - it's a day to be together with friends, loved ones, family, strangers - whoever for the sake of Love. I believe that was the entire message of the One whose birthday we celebrate, is it not?

Perhaps if we reestablished Christmas as the Day of Experiencing Love, bringing Love into our experience, then we maybe we will proceed to living our lives in the state of Love all throughout the year. Then it would be Christmas 365 days a year.
What might our world look like then?

*"It matters not who you love*

*When you﻿ love, Why you love*

*Where you love,or How you love*

*It matters only ...that you love"*

-- [John Lennon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Lennon)

*“‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”* ([Matthew 22:36-40](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%2022:36-40;&version=51;))

Beatles video All You Need is Love