

Let us celebrate Christmas with the perception of its true significance

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Christianity holds a prominent position as one of the great religions of the world. All over the world, December 25th is celebrated as Christmas in order to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ, the founder of this great religion. Usually this special occasion is celebrated with family and friends over fancy foods, singing, dancing, drinking, fireworks, gift giving and also decorating the house and the church with lights. At some places exhibits of the life of Jesus Christ are displayed. Many people choose to go to the church and pray.

Even though we do all of these and enjoy the festivities, is that enough in terms of the Dignity and Sanctity of Christmas in true sense? Don't you think we should keep the divine message of Christmas in mind while enjoying all these celebrations? Afterall, Christmas is a lot more than just food, fun and frolic.

Prophet Jesus Christ gave the message of basic life values like love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness to the whole world throughout his life. Although his opponents created many obstacles

and gave him a lot of hardship. However he bravely borne all of it and provided an outstanding example of tolerance to the entire world. Even when his opponents crowned him with thorns, threw stones at him and nailed him on the cross to die, his words, in such an extremely torturous situation, were "O Lord forgive them for they do not know what they are doing". Such a great example of forgiveness, being good even towards the wrong doer! If we can be inspired by his life to learn tolerance and forgiveness, have benevolent wishes even for the enemies and make friendship with them and love all, then it would be considered a Christmas celebrated in its true sense.

Santa Clause holds another significant place in the celebration of Christmas. He is shown as an Old angel with white hair, white beard and a red cloak. His old age represents maturity and white hair represents purity. It is believed that during Christmas he used to visit the children late at night and brought them toys, gifts and treats. He instilled hope and confidence in those who were alone and hopeless. In these times, when the number



of exploited, deprived, suffering, restless souls is increasing rapidly, we all should take inspiration from Santa Claus, be matured, embrace holiness in life, become like an angel and help those in need. When we are able to bring hope, joy and happiness in the lives of the poor, orphans and victims of adverse circumstances then it would be considered a Christmas celebrated in its true sense.

During Christmas, a star is hung over the house and church. The lighted



star is a symbol of the light form of God and the light form of the soul. Jesus considered God as Light. If we take inspiration

from this shining star and look at everyone from a spiritual perception as a soul, then we can easily develop a sense of equality, brotherhood and love for all. God, the supreme light, the divine light is the transcendental father of all souls. If we can stabilize ourselves in this form of light and remember God as the shining star, that is light with love and devotion, then it would be considered a Christmas celebrated in its true sense.

During Christmas, a Christmas tree is brought into the house and it is specially decorated with lights, candies, ribbons, ornaments, tinsels, bells etc. A Christmas tree is an evergreen tree. It is considered holy and symbolizes the

sanctity of life. As per Vastu (Science of Architecture) it is considered to remove negativity, influence of evil spirits and ghosts. This evergreen tree does not wither throughout the year. This sacred tree gives us the message that we too should keep our holiness forever and be always happy and keep everyone happy. Just as we decorate the Christmas tree, if we decorate our soul with various virtues, values and strengths during these holy days, then it would be considered a Christmas celebrated in its true sense.



Love God, love your neighbor; transform hate to love, anger to humility; make your life the best; Treat others as you would like them to treat you; talk to God through prayer and thank Him. He is willing to support you. Let's truly apply these messages of Jesus in our lives during Christmas.

Prajapita Brahmakumari
Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, an
international spiritual educational
institution, operating in more than 135
countries, celebrates Christmas around
the world exclusively in this above context.