

Hot Topics: Christmas - Episode 426

December is the busiest season in the church world.

Between Christmas services, end-of-year wrap-up and planning for 2026, you probably don't have the time or mental bandwidth to digest a content-heavy podcast series.

So this month, we're doing something fun. We're focusing on some "hot topics"—things every church leader is talking about and thinking about right now.

What better way to kick off this series than by talking about Christmas? In this episode, Amy and Sean have a real, honest conversation about what's on pastors' minds as Christmas approaches.

Key Quotes

1. AMY: "For most churches, Christmas is like a Super Bowl weekend to reach their community."
2. SEAN: "You don't need to have flashy lights or new musical arrangements to make Christmas powerful. Nostalgia really does the heavy lifting for us."
3. AMY: "Especially at Christmas, make sure there is a clear takeaway, a clear next step for people after they've heard the message."
4. SEAN: "What happens after Christmas is just as important. Make sure your January series is something that actually connects with where people are in their lives right now."
5. SEAN: "What if celebrating the birth of Jesus became a springboard into the season of new beginnings for people in your mission field?"

Self-Assessment: How Are We Doing?

With just 15 days until Christmas, what's one thing you could tweak about your upcoming services to ensure they are the most impactful for your regular attendees AND the outsiders who will visit?

1. How "creative" are the songs we've chosen? Could we increase nostalgia by singing them in the traditional way people expect during this season?
2. Do we have a plan to welcome new people early in the service to make them feel at ease?
3. What's the clear next step for those visiting?
4. Are we reminding our church to pray for friends and family and invite them to join these services? If not, how will we communicate that to them in the days leading up to Christmas?

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