



# MERRY CHRISTMAS, FRIENDS!

I've so enjoyed creating this guide for you! It features unique gift ideas, resources to keep the focus on Jesus during Christmas, and cozy items to enhance your season.

The smaller treasures are perfect for stocking stuffers, hostess gifts, and even for your ministry team. I've also included some "Nonie" gifts, just in case you have a toddler girl in your life, like I do!

Every item in the guide is something I personally own or have gifted. Simply tap on each image for the link. My aim is to save you time and energy so you can fully enjoy the season with your loved ones and embrace the true meaning of Christmas!

Laura

"All the Christmas presents in the world are worth nothing without the presence of Christ." David Jeremiah



# LET'S START WITH YOU

Give yourself the gift of time to be still...



COZY

I recently bought this **comfy wrap**, inspired by a friend. It's super soft and snugly! I love the length and the choice of colors.



SPICY

Every sip of this hot cinnamon tea is like a comforting hug! I keep it on hand and love sharing it as a thoughtful gift.



SNUGGLE

This **ivory pom pom blanket** is *perfect* for chilly nights. I gave these away during my book launch. The price point is good!



TOASTY

I spotted **this candle** in a boutique in Franklin, TN. The scent was lovely, but not the price. I found it on Amazon for half the cost!



SOFT

There are **5 pairs of socks** here! They are comfy and cozy. Split them up for stocking stuffers and keep a pair for you!



COMFORTING

We LOVE **mulled cider** in our home! On Christmas Eve, we make a variation, adding cranberry and orange juice, called Wassail. Email me for the recipe!

## MAKE AN ADVENT WREATH

Help to keep Jesus in the Center



### STEP 1

Both my grandmother and my mom always had an **Advent Wreath** at home, and so have I.
First, you need a ring. Decorate with fresh or artificial greens, holly, and a bow.



## STEP 2

Colonial Candles of Cape Cod makes beautiful candles. I buy these every year. First Sunday of Advent Candle: Hope Second Sunday of Advent Candle: Peace Third Sunday of Advent Candle (pink): Joy Fourth Sunday of Advent Candle: Love



## STEP 3

We place a **Christ Candle** in the center of our Advent Wreath. On Christmas morning, we light it before gifts to pause and remember Jesus is the true gift. Though pricey, our lasts about ten years.



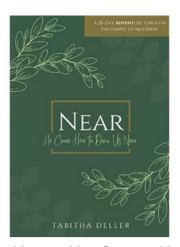
## OUR ADVENT WREATH

This is our **Advent Wreath**, with a much loved and used Christ Candle! If you would like to learn how to use an Advent Wreath with your family or just for you, click on this link. On the next page are **Advent devotionals**, **Bible studies and books** I've enjoyed in recent years.

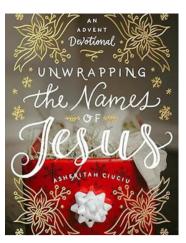




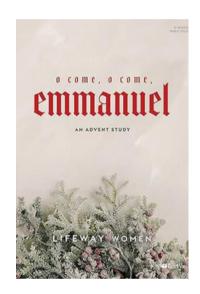
**Prepare Him Room** by Susie Larson



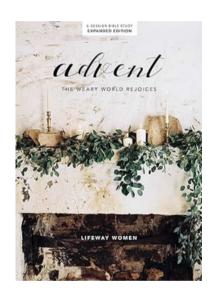
Near: He Came Here to Draw Us Near by Tabitha Deller



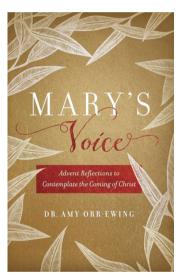
**Unwrapping the Names of Jesus** by
Asheritah Ciuciu



O Come, O Come Emmanuel Advent Study by Lifeway Women



Advent: The Weary World Rejoices by Lifeway Women



NEW! Mary's Voice: Advent Reflections to Contemplate the Coming of Christ by Dr. Amy Orr-Ewing

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."

Isaiah 9:2



# CHRISTMAS JOY!



### **CHRISTMAS CRACKERS**

Christmas Crackers have been a highlight of our family's Christmas Eve for 40 years! Inside each cracker is a paper crown, a joke and a trinket. We wear our silly crowns and read the very bad jokes out loud to each other! No matter the age, everyone gets in on the fun!



## EMBROIDERED VELVET KIMONO

I wore this teal velvet kimono to my Still Becoming Launch Party last December! The embroidery is beautiful and the fabric is good quality. You can dress it up or wear it with jeans, There are other colors available too!



# YANKEE CANDLE: MISTLETOE SCENT

I love scents that remind me of the holidays with our family. The mistletoe candle has been a favorite in our home for years and years. I'll be heartbroken if Yankee Candle ever discontinues it! To me, this scent conjures Christmas at home.



## GIFTS FOR YOUR GIRLFRIENDS

I've given these gifts to my ministry team too.



#### QUIET TIME

I've given this candle many times over the years. It pairs well with the pom pom blanket on page two!



#### HONEY SPOONS

There are 8 honey spoons in this pack. They pair perfectly with the Harney Tea on page one.



#### WOOD ORNAMENTS

These are great to tuck into a goodie bag or pass out to the women in your small group!
There are 30 ornaments in the pack!



#### NAMES OF JESUS

I've given these ornaments to the ladies at church. Like the others on this page, they are affordable and beautiful. 25 count.



#### SEED PACKETS

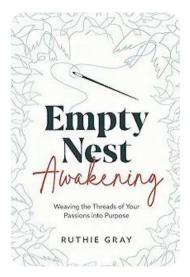
These mustard seed packets were given to small group leaders with a tag that read, "Thank you for planting the seeds of faith."



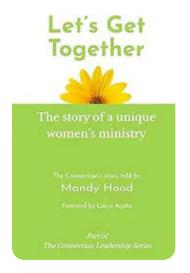
#### REINDEER!

Who wouldn't love this set of 6 reindeer tea light holders? They are adorable! You can split them up and give as favors and hostess gifts.

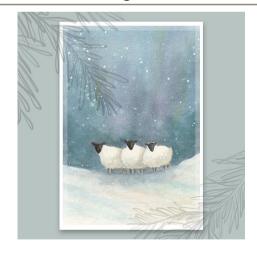
# FRIENDS WITH NEW BOOKS AND BUSINESSES!



**Empty Nest Awakening**, **by Ruthie Gray**, is a muchneeded, practical, and encouraging book! Ruthie's humor, unique voice, and experiences are life-giving to moms who wonder what's left now that the kids are gone.



Let's Get Together,by
Mandy Hood, tells the story
of how God used ordinary
women to begin a ministry
to women in their small rural
town that now reaches across
the country and around
the world. I've witnessed
their amazing story!



My watercolor artist friend, **Barb Noll** has opened her Etsy shop, **For My Love of Paint,** just in time for the holidays! She has so many gorgeous designs. Some are seasonal and some are not. I love the sheep! She has them on note cards and gift tags!



"The First Noel the Angels did say Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay In fields where they lay keeping their sheep On a cold winter's night that was so deep..."



# NONIE GIFTS!

Just a few...



The First Christmas Board Book



Buffalo Plaid Soft Sided Toy Bin



Christmas in the Manger Board Book



"Fawn"
Leggings,
Babydoll Top
and Bow



Cute Carters Sleepers



Pop-Up Princess House



London Fog Snow Outfit



**Cozy Snow Boots** 



Fisher Price Little People Nativity



# Still Becoming is One Year Old!

Thank you for your kindness and support!



## **Order Still Becoming on Amazon**

It's Almost 2024...

**Still Becoming Small Group Coaching** begins in January!

One on One Coaching: Let 2024 be the year you move forward into "what's next."

I am booking **speaking engagements** for Spring, Summer and Fall 2024.

Listen to the **Still Becoming Podcast** on your favorite platforms.





If I decorate my house perfectly with lovely plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights, and shiny glass balls, but do not show love to my family – I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals, and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family – I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home, and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family – it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties, and sing in the choir's cantata but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child.

Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband.

Love is kind, though harried and tired.

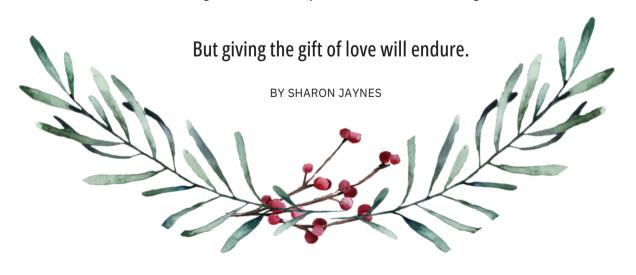
Love doesn't envy another home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of your way.

Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return, but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

Love never fails. Video games will break; pearl necklaces will be lost; golf clubs will rust.





Merry Christmas

I LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU IN THE NEW YEAR!



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