

Dear Pastor and Church Leader:

Christmas is a joyous and happy time of the year. It's also a time of sadness and pain for many. We believe the church is ideally poised to serve as the instrument of Christ to restore faith, hope, and love in our community. And Christmas is an ideal time to do this.



As our team pondered the theme for 2018, we landed upon the idea of *Simple Faith*. In a complex and often combative world, we need “simpler” in our lives. This also extends to our faith. After all, the core message of Scripture is really simple: for God so loved the world.

This series was created and purposed to accomplish the following goals:

- Catalyzing a movement of the Spirit of Christmas in the hearts of the people of God and empowering them to simple steps of impacting those in their world.
- To increase the number of people presented with Jesus so that we might *help churches make more disciples!*
- To enrich the worship experience of congregations by offering compelling and relevant seasonal tools for church life.

There are LOTS of helps and resources in this program. The best place to begin is by watching the **Introductory Video**. Once you've viewed it, we would suggest reading the **How to Use** piece included in the kit. After you've become familiar with the big idea of the series as well as the flow of materials, we suggest recruiting a small team of key leaders to help you implement *Simple Faith*. Host a team meeting and decide how you will customize the kit for your congregation. You might even create a “production” calendar so you can stay on track. Once you're ready, release it into congregational life and have fun.

We are also excited to include a special resource in this year's program. This featured resource is a 5-week collection of short video pieces designed to be placed on your website home page as well as to be distributed through your social media strategy. Please consider sharing them with your congregation so they can in turn share them with their network of contacts. They can even be used in worship as a lead up to the next week's worship service.

Remember, everything offered here is royalty free and open to sharing as you wish. We want you to **use what you like as you like**. Our prayer is that *Simple Faith* will enrich and bless your holy season.

Since God loved, we love ...

Dr. Timothy West, Texas Ministries of the Church of God
Pastor Eric Livingston, Illinois Ministries of the Church of God
Pastor Mike Claypool, Carolina Ministries
Pastor Ken Love, Florida Church of God Ministries
Pastor Howard Megill, Missouri Ministries of the Church of God