



# NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

*“I still say “Merry Christmas” and share the true story. What about you?”*

## **Please Put Baby Jesus Back**

*Several years ago, the plant where I worked, asked me to play Santa Claus for the company children’s program. They knew I was good with kids and had a jolly personality. (Hopefully, they did not think I had the belly for it.) I turned them down, explaining that Christmas is about Jesus and not a person in a red suit. When they asked me to bring in a few nativity sets for center pieces for the company Christmas lunch, I did not turn them down. (My mother had collected them. She had all kinds of sizes, some made of glass, others bees wax, some in snow globes, some that play music and some more than 50 years old.) I brought in so many that some had to be removed to make room for the food.*

*In 2013, someone stole the baby Jesus from a nativity, next to where we once lived. The owner’s sister had died that morning and when he got home, baby Jesus was gone. He put a sign up next to a wise man, “Please, put baby Jesus back. Thank You.” When the story hit the news, someone brought a new doll baby as a replacement but it was not the same. Three day later the missing savior mysteriously reappeared at 6:45 pm. You can [read the story](#).*

*December is a month where children and adults are still willing to listen to the Bible story about the birth of Jesus. People, who will not go to church all year, will go Christmas and Easter when invited. People still sing along when carols are played and are not offended when they get Christian Christmas cards. Last year, a coworker gave out “Keep Christ in Christmas” pins and he had to get more. We have not yet lost the opportunity to share the good news that God became flesh and dwelt among us. Each one of us needs to do our part to “Please put baby Jesus back.”*



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*“For unto you is born  
this day a Saviour,  
which is Christ the  
King.” Luke 2:11*



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