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Sisters for Yah

Holidays or HOLY DAYS?

Around this time of year, most of us longtime Believers find ourselves in numerous conversations with our unbelieving relatives or coworkers, concerning the celebration or Christmas. I suspect it will always be a yearly contention, until Yahweh's Kingdom is firmly established on the earth.

As Yahweh's people, we quickly find ourselves weary of the constant need to explain why we don't celebrate Christmas. Not to mention the assault on our senses every time we walk into a store blasting holiday music and repeated "Merry Christmas" wishes everywhere we go. This is not an easy time of year for us. Many of us are counting the days till its over. Take heart, Brethren!

Sometimes I find the excuses that people come up with about why they celebrate Christmas pathetic and hilarious. One person said, "It's the only time of year I can decorate my house!" My first thought was, 'Are you kidding me?' Why not decorate your house for Yahweh's fall Holy Days? I've seen some pretty amazing decorations that people have done with their children that have centered around the real Holy Days; intricate displays that make Christmas decorations look amateur by comparison.

Here's another common excuse, "My kids would miss opening presents too much!" Can't people give gifts at other times of the



year? It makes no sense to me when people think that Christmas is the only time they can wrap presents for their kids. I know some who wrap their kids presents for Feast of Tabernacles instead. And their kids don't feel "deprived" any way. I encourage everyone to get rid of the silly excuses, and stand fast for righteousness!

LITTLE KNOWN USES FOR BORAX

Borax is cheap and relatively non-toxic. However, some people can develop a rash on skin, so please use gloves when handling. Try these unusual ideas that really work!

- —Borax makes a great cleaner for those with sensitive skin. Just sprinkle it on sponges or clothing. Can also be used to wash down walls, floors, sinks, toilets, tubs and kitchen surfaces. For delicate surfaces such as ceramic, porcelain, and marble, dilute the borax in water first to avoid scratching.
- —Make a deodorizing spray by combining 12 oz. water with 1/2 cup borax. Spray on curtains, carpets, mattresses, and furniture to neutralize odors.
- —Scrub pots and pans to remove water deposits. You can also add 1/4 cup to your dishwasher.
- —Allergic to conventional laundry detergent? Make your own! Mix 2 cups of finely grated gentle soap, 1 cup washing soda, and 1 cup borax. Adjust amounts according to size of your wash load.
- —Make fabric fire retardant. Simply mix 7 oz. of borax with 3 oz. of boric acid, and 2 quarts of warm water. Dip fabric into solution and leave to dry.
- —Prevent mice. Sprinkle borax onto garage floors, basements, or other areas that are not accessible to pets of children.
- —Weed killer: mix 10 oz. borax in 4 oz. warm water. Spray on weeds, taking care to not let it come in contact with nearby plants that you don't want to kill.
- —You can mix borax with sugar and add a little water to get rid of ants. Leave drops of the solution in kitchen or outside.
- —Rust remover: 1 cup borax, 2 cups warm water, and 1 T. lemon juice. Omit lemon juice to make a fabric stain remover.
- —Make your own candlewicks. Soak heavy twine in a solution of 1 T. salt, 3 T. borax, and 1 cup of warm water for 24 hours. Remove and let dry before using.

Do you love thinking about the "good old days"?

A new scientific study indicates that nostalgia is good for your health! It used to be called selfindulgence, but recalling happy memories from the past improves one's sense of well-being. It can even help your memory and improve dementia in elderly patients. Researchers also found that people who listened to nostalgic songs reported higher levels of optimism, which improves depression and high blood pressure. There may be something to the old saying, "Laughter is the best medicine."



People who talked to friends about the "good old days" laughed more than those who didn't. Laughter between people causes powerful bonds to form, which is actually shown to strengthen the immune system thereby warding of infections and illnesses. Go ahead and indulge in this fun activity!

Free entertainment for the whole family

- 1. Bike ride
- 2. Fishing
- Hiking
- 4. Picnic
- 5. Make smores/camping
- 6. Cook over a fire (even in your backyard)
- 7. Board games the whole family can enjoy
- 8. Puzzles
- 9. Kick ball
- 10. Beach excursion
- 11. Visit a historical site (you'd be surprised how entertaining this can be!)
- 12. Have a movie night at home with popcorn (very economical!)
- 13. Take a field trip
- 14. Take a scenic drive
- 15. Have an art contest at home
- 16. Put on your own theatrical skit
- 17. Hold a concert in your living room
- 18. Pillow fight
- 19. Bake a cake or cookies together
- 20. Go for a walk (even on cold days—just bundle up)
- 21. Winter sports such as ice skating
- 22. Make an indoor fort with the kids
- 23. Borrow books or movies at the library





False Ministers

I don't often go out of my way to listen to mainstream Christian ministers because I usually end up disagreeing with almost everything they promote. But not too long ago, my ears perked up in alarm as I heard a shocking statement by one particular prominent minister, who has a following of millions of people. He stated, very emphatically, that, "No one can keep the Ten Commandments, so stop trying!" My jaw practically dropped to the floor. Yahweh gave us commandments for our benefit! He did not want people going around murdering each other, or stealing, or committing adultery. These things hurt us, and cause pain and suffering for those around us. If everyone kept Yahweh's commands this world would be a much better place to live and raise our children.

I admit that we probably will never keep Yahweh's commands perfectly in the flesh, but at least we can set our minds in that direction and choose life, instead of the way of death and destruction! It is truly sad that millions upon millions of people are being led astray by ministers that they trust. That's why it's so important to read the Bible for yourself. Don't just trust the man behind the pulpit!

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Homemade cough syrup

Important note: This is not for infants and small children, because it contains honey!

1/8 cup apple cider vinegar 1 T. water 1/2 T. honey Dash ground ginger Dash cyenne pepper 1/2 t. lemon juice

Mix all ingredients in a bowel and bring to a gentle simmer over low heat for a



few minutes. Allow to cool. Store in a glass container in the fridge. Recipe can easily be doubled or tripled.

Chill-chasing Potato Soup

(6 servings)

1 1/2 cups peeled cubed potatoes

1/2 cup chopped onion

 $1~\mathrm{jar}~(3.5~\mathrm{oz})$ roasted red bell peppers, drained and chopped

1/2 cup chopped celery

3 cups chicken or vegetable broth

1/4 t. garlic powder

1/4 t. seasoned salt

Dash pepper

Dash rubbed sage

1 cup heavy cream

1/2 cup shredded parmesan

1/3 cup all purpose flour

4 turkey bacon, cooked and crumbled

2 T. fresh cilantro, for garnish, optional

Place first 9 ingredients in crock pot. Cook on low until potatoes are tender, about 4 hours. Whisk the flour with the heavy cream and slowly incorporate into the soup to thicken. Place in 6 bowls, and evenly garnish with the parmesan, turkey bacon crumbles, and cilantro (if using). This is wonderful on a cold winter's evening served with buttered bread or your favorite crackers! It's also very filling.

