

# Third Thursday Notes

Oct 2022 - Leading Through the Holiday Season

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## Rhythm

Know your context. Do you need to slow down during holidays to make space for family time? Do you need to switch gears to provide more fun opportunities for students?

## Family Dynamics

Be aware that for some students the holidays may be very difficult. Perhaps this is the first Christmas after their parent's divorce or the loss of a loved one, or maybe they have other tough family circumstances that steal the joy of the holidays.

## Content

Themes for curriculum over the holidays: Advent, Thankfulness, New Life in Christ (DownloadYouthMinistry.com, Axis.org, ThinkOrange.com). The holidays can also provide great serving opportunities.

## Leading

This is a great season to do something to appreciate your youth ministry leaders. It could be something as small as a card or a small gift, or something more significant like a volunteer appreciation dinner. This is also a great time to connect with parents and perhaps provide encouragement, resources, or engage with them in some way.

## Calendar

October and November are great months to reflect on the last year of ministry and begin thinking through the upcoming year. What went well this past year? What should be developed or changed? Is there a mission trip you'd like to take students on? Are there other ministry objectives that require prior planning. Remember, a little bit of planning now provides incredible amounts of freedom later on.

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