



Title: Game plan – December holidays
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A good holiday needs a game plan!

The 2 most important ingredients for a good holiday:

- Peace
- Joy

What can steal our peace and joy during a time of holiday?

1. **Distractions – What is a distraction:** Something that is not necessarily bad, but things that keep you busy and take your focus off what is really important.

What is really important: God and family

Game plan: Manage your distractions – how?

- Make time for God – put God in your holiday diary!
- Make time for your family. Make an effort to love them, to pray for them, to value what is important to them.
- Boundaries – television, movies, sport, outings, food.... Discuss the boundaries before the holiday.

2. Debt – spending too much, buying impulsively

Game plan: Make money your servant – how?

- **Budget**
Budgeting will take the pressure off you in January when most people stress a lot about their finances.
- **Give**

Acts 20:35b

“It is more blessed to give than to receive....”

This does not make sense until we start giving.

Don't compromise on your giving to God – many faithful givers simply forget to give during holidays or don't give in January, because they need to recover from their spending in December.

3. **Devil – stealing your joy, condemning you, making you stressed/fearful, leading you into sin**

Game plan: Be sober and vigilant – how?

1 Peter 5:8

Be **sober, be vigilant**; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

- **Don't isolate yourself** - Go to church, phone a friend. Don't let the devil mess with your thoughts and mind and bring a lot of lies to you.
- **Manage your alcohol** - **Mark 6:20-27**
- **Get some exercise** – ‘n gesonde liggaam huisves ‘n gesonde gees/ledigheid is die duiwel se oorkussing

2012

If you have a game plan for the holiday, you will be spiritually fit and ready for 2012 – you will have confidence and boldness in the spirit.

New Year's eve

Find a Christian friend and pray, have communion, consecrate 2012 to God. Or do it on 1 January 2012.

Matthew 16:19

And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

2012: Go to your office/classroom, place where you work a day earlier if you can. Take some oil, anoint your office and take authority over your environment. Declare it holy ground and welcome the Holy Spirit.