

# The eighth Christmas blessing that my Lord gave to me

## Christmas Celebrations

Christmas is a time to have many celebrations or parties for the various youth ministries that I am involved with. This year is no exception and I would like to briefly talk about three Christmas parties directly connected to youth ministry here in Taiwan.

### *OSF Christmas Celebration:*

The On-Campus Student Fellowship group meets most Thursday evenings throughout the semester and it is an outreach group for students who live at Concordia Middle School. The OSF Christmas party was held on Thursday December 17<sup>th</sup> this year, and it feature a performance of the Lost Son Skit (see Day #3), 2 rounds of Family Feud (featuring Christmas questions), singing of Christmas carols, and plenty of delicious snacks.

**Picture:** OSF students play Family Feud. With host Ben Riley



### *Friday Night Bible Study Christmas Celebration:*

The FNBS Christmas party was on Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>. Friday Night Bible Study is held in Chia-Yi City and is a weekly English Bible study for Junior High students through adults. While some of the people who attend also go to Concordia, many do not. This makes it a great outreach to students who are not hearing the Gospel on a regular basis. Our FNBS party also featured Christmas songs and a performance of the Lost Son Skit. In addition we all went out to the streets near church to go Christmas caroling. We returned from caroling to read the Christmas story from Luke 2, and sing Silent Night. The evening ended with many delicious snacks being devoured by hungry youth and adults.

**Picture:** Junior High Students prepare to sing Silent Night



### *Salvation Lutheran Church Youth Group Christmas Celebration:*

Youth Group had a Christmas Party on Sunday December 27<sup>th</sup>. For this celebration we sang Christmas songs and played a gift opening/exchanging game... (similar to White Elephant Gift Games). After playing the game we ate pizza and decorated Christmas cookies.



**Picture:** Youth decorating cookies

All of these activities were such a blessing because more people attended the event than normally do the weekly gathering. Christmas activities are a great outreach tool because new students come as they are curious to learn about how people celebrate Christmas. Also, many regular attendees will invite more friends to accompany them to the Christmas parties. This provides a great opportunity to witness the love of Jesus to many new people.

### **Prayer Requests:**

1. Please pray for all of the students who attended these youth events. May they understand the true meaning of Christmas and their need for a savior.
2. Pray that God would lead the new visitors to return and continuing learning about him.

### **The 12 Christmas blessings that my Lord gave to me**

-8 Christmas Celebrations

-7<sup>th</sup> Grade Bible Class

-6 former students

-Bright, glowing trees

-Song Competition

-Lost Son Skit

-Water and Word

...and Messiah on Christmas Eve