



### **You have received your family, now what?**

Firstly, we want to thank you for adopting a family from our community this Christmas. Whether it's your first time or you've signed up to help for a few years, this is such an amazing way to bless local kids and their families at Christmas.

Please remember poverty looks different for everyone. A family member could have become unemployed or ill and are unable to provide Christmas gifts and cheer for their children this year.

Beware of giving financial help for utilities, rent, etc. *Please refer the family to ALC's benevolence ministry for further assistance.*

### **Your group adopted a family – Please read the following changes:**

- Please make sure similar \$\$ amounts are spent on all children in the family and they each have the same number of gifts.
- If some want to do more, consider a bigger family gift card or family gifts.
- Please bring all the family gifts together. If you're a life group, perhaps have one person collect all the gifts and drop them off all at once. Or have a designated meet time and/or place in the lobby to make sure all gifts are accounted for before handing them over. This will prevent mistakes as volunteers' bag and tag all gifts once they arrive.

### **Step by Step**

- Familiarize yourself with the family and their requests on the wish list you were given.
- Attempt to contact the family.
- Call the family or the English-speaking contact.
  - Introduce yourself.
  - Let them know you are part of Abundant Life Church Adopt a Family program and verify their wish list.

- Start to build a connection with them and clarify any wish list questions you may have.
- Please let them know they will be receiving a letter with their specified pick-up time as we get closer to the pick-up date (these are normally mailed and/or emailed just before Thanksgiving).
- If you are unable to contact the family – keep trying but know when it's just not going to happen and that's alright.
  - Try calling at different times of the day or on the weekend.
  - Sometimes the parents have run out of minutes on their phones.
  - Most will be able to receive a text message.
  - If you are struggling to connect with the family call ALC at 503-658-8271
- Have fun shopping for the kids!
  - Please try to get at least two toys on their wish list and a set of clothing for each child. This should be very achievable with a \$75 per child amount.
  - **You do not have to buy everything on the wish list.**
  - If you are shopping for multiple children, we ask that each child receives the same number of gifts.
- The family will have selected a store on their wish list. Please add a family gift card of at least \$50 for Mom and Dad. This can help towards food for the holidays or even a chance for them to buy their children a gift themselves.
- Once everything's purchased, wrap the gifts, and add to each gift their assigned family #.
  - The family number will be written on the top of the wish list if you have a paper copy.
  - If you have an electronic copy, it will be in the heading of the email and listed in the attachment name.
- Drop off at your ALC campus.
  - Gifts will be collected **before, during, and after both services on Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.**
  - Understandably, things do happen. Please order your gifts in plenty of time as the gifts are given to the families the week of **December 11<sup>th</sup>.**
  - We will not be accepting partially filled gift drop offs for families. All family gifts need to be dropped off at the same time.