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Have you ever noticed how a positive attitude, action, word, or even just a smile can make a person's day a lot better? Just the smallest gesture, like a smile, can make someone feel good about themselves. You don't even have to go to an extreme to make a person feel happy and loved. We have been in the holiday season for a while now, and I believe no one should be alone on the holidays. Everyone should be with the people they love and care about. Being with the people you love during this time will make you happier and have a more positive outlook on life.

On December 23rd, my family and I were on our way home from picking up my brother from practice. There is a boy on his team whose parents are always working, so we take him home from practice on a regular basis. My family is fortunate enough to have my mom stay at home and not have to work. We were all talking about how excited we were for Christmas! My mom asked the boy what his plans were for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. He responded and said that his mom was working all day both days so he would probably just hang out at home. He doesn't live in a very good neighborhood, and he has mentioned before that he doesn't like being at his house by himself. Knowing this, mom and I exchanged faces like we knew we should do something. We were thinking of the same thing because right then my mom invited him to spend the two days with us. He said that he would really like that and that he couldn't wait. After we dropped him off my mom and I decided to go shopping for him because on Christmas Eve we go over my aunt and uncle's house and the kids exchange secret santa gifts. Also, on Christmas Day when we go over my grandma and grandpa's house

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they give all their grandkids a lot of gifts. We did not want him to be the only child without a gift to open. We couldn't wait to give him his gifts and make him feel special like every kid should on Christmas.

The next day it was Christmas Eve. My family was all getting ready for church. We had to leave very early to go pick up the boy, and get to church early because my sister was singing in the choir. After mass, it was dinner time so we headed over to my aunt and uncle's house. The boy couldn't believe how much food we had there. The food was delicious and everyone enjoyed it. It was time to exchange our secret santa gifts. Everyone was so excited about the gifts they got, but I've never seen someone more happy to open a gift than that boy was opening his. He was so surprised when my brother walked the gift over to him, and right then he got the biggest smile on his face. He was so appreciative.

On Christmas morning, my family opened our gifts from Santa. After everyone had eaten breakfast we decided it was time to go to my grandparent's house. On the way there, we picked up the boy. All of my cousins, aunts, and uncles were there. The boy was so good with the kids and they all loved him. When it was time to open presents, he was given the gifts my mom and I picked out for him. Once again, he was so appreciative and couldn't believe that we even thought to give him presents. When it was time to say goodbye he couldn't have been more appreciative. When he was getting out of the car he said that this had been one of the best Christmas' he's ever

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had. We still take him to and home from practices and he always has a smile on his face. I am so happy I got to meet him and I think we will be friends for a long time.

A positive attitude, action, word, or even just a smile can make a person's day a lot better. Something as simple as a smile can make someone feel good about themselves. If you want to make an impact on someone's life all you have to do is smile. Smiling is contagious so if you smile at someone it will just keep being passed on and make the world a better place. I am not saying you have to invite a stranger to spend the holidays with your family, however, if you are a kind enough person and are willing to make a positive impact on someone's life, the sky's the limit.