

(12.24.2023) 🙇 52th

If you look at today's text, you'll see that even in the first Christmas in human history, gifts were given. The Wise Men offered gold, frankincense, and myrrh upon seeing baby Jesus. On this precious Christmas day, I'd like to discuss what gift is the most valuable, focusing on the recipients of gift-giving.

Firstly, at Christmas, there is a gift given to us by God.

In the Bible, it appears that the Wise Men were the first to give gifts. However, with a closer look, we realize that the first gift of Christmas was the birth of baby Jesus on this Earth. The Bible tells us that Jesus is the gift that God gave us (John 3:16). It is the holiest gift towards a sinful world and the greatest gift towards us in our inadequacy. Jesus is the best gift God gave us, and Christmas is about receiving this ultimate gift from God. God loves us so much that He gave us the gift of Jesus Christ. This gift is forgiveness of sins, salvation, and eternal life—the most crucial needs for us humans (Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 6:23). Let's be thankful for the gift of Jesus this Christmas. If anyone hasn't received Jesus in their hearts yet, I invite you to open your hearts today and accept Jesus, God's greatest gift, with gratitude.

Secondly, at Christmas, there is a gift we give to God.

On this Christmas day, it's not just about the gifts we receive from God: it's also about the gifts we offer to God. In today's text, on the first Christmas day, the Wise Men presented gifts to Jesus. They came from afar, offering the most valuable things, humbly bowing down. Gold is given to kings, incense is presented to priests during ceremonies, and myrrh is offered in preparation for death. These were the most precious things at that time. They worshiped Jesus, who is a King, a Priest, and the Lord who would die for us. In Romans 12:1, it is stated that the most precious gift we can give to God is ourselves. I believe that when we present ourselves with a grateful heart before the Lord, the precious gift of Christmas is truly given to God. He will be delighted when we offer our lives as a gift, considering that we have received the gift of life.

Thirdly, at Christmas, there is a gift we share with others.

Lastly, as we celebrate Christmas, there is a gift we should share with the world. It is the sharing of the awe and love that those who have received the gift of Jesus Christ feel. Loving and blessing others with the love of Jesus through our words, especially for the lowly and vulnerable, is the Christmas gift we should share with one another. Within our families and in our local communities, let's love and bless one another in the love of Jesus (James 4:10-11, Matthew 25:40).

Bīble Memorī -zatīon

A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." (1 John 4:11)

Bīble Readīng

12/25(Mon)	12/26(Tue)	12/27(Wed)	12/28(Thur)	12/29(Fri)	12/30(Sat)	12/31(Sun)
1 John 5	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation	Happy
Revelation 1	2-5	6-9	10-14	15-18	19-22	New Year

Quiet Time Passage

QT

12/25(Mon)	12/26(Tue)	12/27(Wed)	12/28(Thur)	12/29(Fri)	12/30(Sat)	12/31(Sun)
Luke	Proverbs	Proverbs	Proverbs	Proverbs	Proverbs	Proverbs
2:25-38	29:1-14	29:15-27	30:1-14	30:15-33	31:1-9	31:10-31

Sharīng Questī*o*ns

- 1. Share something new or grace received through today's message.
- 2. Share about the greatest gift God has given you-Jesus Christ.
- 3. Share whether you are living your life dedicated to God.
- 4. Share how you can share love with others.