



Nuggets of Treasure **Gift of Jesus**



December 2024

Volume 34 Issue 8

Just as we express our love for others by giving gifts at Christmas and other occasions God has expressed His love for us with the greatest gift imaginable. "For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (NLT) This verse is a summary of the gospel. God's love was expressed in the giving of His most precious and priceless gift, His only Son. The Lord's gift is not limited to a few people or just one group but to the whole world. His gift is to us individually. Young or old, Jesus is the perfect gift. Only by rejecting Jesus do we exclude ourselves from the gift of Jesus and all its benefits.

A gift is something that is given without compensation so therefore we only must receive God's gift to us, we do not have to earn it. We are born again by believing what Jesus did for us and trusting in Him. We could never receive a greater gift than the gift of Jesus.

We may receive countless and various gifts in our lives but never one better than the gift of Jesus. We possibly will receive gifts of money, precious draw-

ings from children or grandchildren, gold or diamonds, treasures from family members, or something that we have always desired whether that be the latest and greatest gadget or fashion. Those gifts might mean a great deal to us, but those kinds of gifts can become outdated, outgrown, stolen, destroyed in a disaster, rot, or break. As a child, I received a new long light tan coat with a hood I wanted for Christmas. I wore it once and then spilled ink down the front of the coat. My parents and I were unhappy, and the coat was unrepairable. The gift of Jesus is always with us and never becomes outdated. He cannot be stolen or destroyed and He will not break. Physical things are perishable but the gift of Jesus will last forever.

The gift of Jesus is beneficial and effective. He is a gift that we can rely on and trust in. The gift of Jesus is the gift of forgiveness of our sins, offenses, and shortcomings. The gift of Jesus redeems us and delivers us. The gift of Jesus is salvation and all that encompasses. The gift of Jesus has many aspects; grace, wisdom, peace, joy, love, goodness, and the list is endless.

Through the many aspects of the gift of Jesus, our hearts can be calmed in trouble, our fears dissipated, and circumstances walked through with assurance. Jesus is the gift that keeps on giving.

It is by the gift of Jesus we can enter into a relationship and intimate fellowship with the Father. It is by the gift of Jesus we have the Holy Spirit to lead, guide, and enable us.

If you are a believer you have received the best gift there is nothing that compares to the gift of Jesus. We need to cherish the gift and receive all the benefits of that gift. As we depend on the Word we will enjoy the many aspects of the gift of Jesus. The gift of Jesus is life beyond our wildest dreams.

We need a revelation in our hearts to understand the depth of the greatness of the gift of Jesus. As we ponder the greatness of the gift of Jesus we need to thank the Father for the gift and for Jesus' willingness to die on our behalf. We need to thank Him for the gift of His Spirit and assurance of His constant presence. Let us open our hearts to all He has for us in that special gift.

Nuggets of Treasure

Upcoming Events 2024

December 24 Christmas Eve



December 25 Christmas



December 31 New Year's Eve

January 1, 2025 New Year's Day

Church Offices

The Administrative Office is not located at the church building.

Ministry Office is at the church by appointment only:
13th & Fillmore, Caldwell, ID
Phone 208-459-6000
FAX 208-459-6600



"Remember you are always responsible for how you act. No matter how you feel."—Toby Mac

"Giving thanks shifts your focus away from your problems and onto the answers." —Joyce Meyer

"Thank God for the people He's put in your life!"—Jesse Duplantis

"God is love, God is life, and God is light. So if you remove God from the situation, you have no love, no life, no light."—John Bevere

"As well could you expect a plant to grow without air and water as to expect your heart to grow without prayer and faith."—Charles H. Spurgeon

"Many call Christ Saviour; few know Him to be so. To see grace and salvation in Christ, is the greatest sight in the world."— Thomas Wilcox

"He is making a way where there seems to be no way."—Toby Mac

Birthday Blessings

12/12 John Westing



Our Helping Hands Show A Loving Heart

Get involved, find a place to help. We all have something to give. We need greeters, ushers, maintenance, socials, visitations, children, youth, food center, music, socials, driving etc.

VOLUNTEER



Oasis Food Center Update

November 2024

Families: 1,052
New Families: 45
Total People: 4,042

Year to Date 2024 (as of 11/27/24)

Families: 14,834
New Families: 882
Total People: 58,025

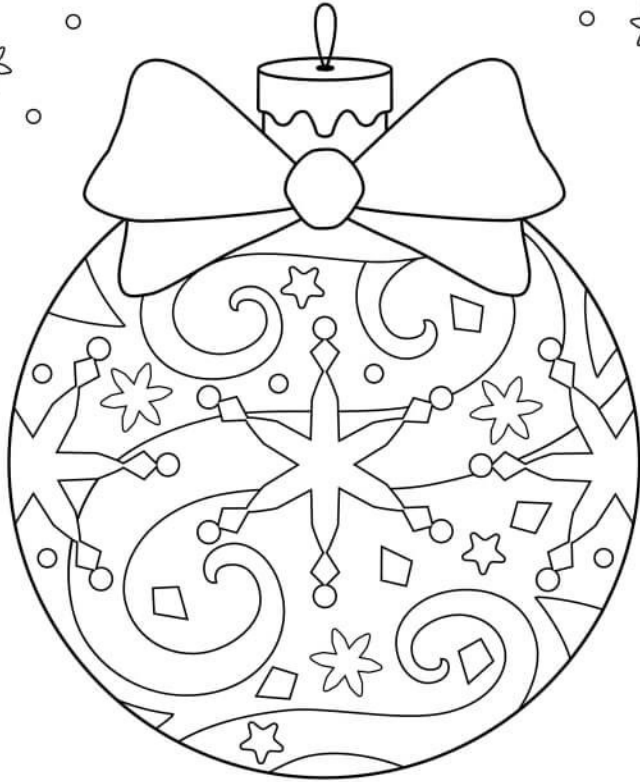
Year to Date 2023

Families: 15,676
New Families: 855
Total People: 60,772

Children's Corner

Nuggets of Treasure

Merry Christmas



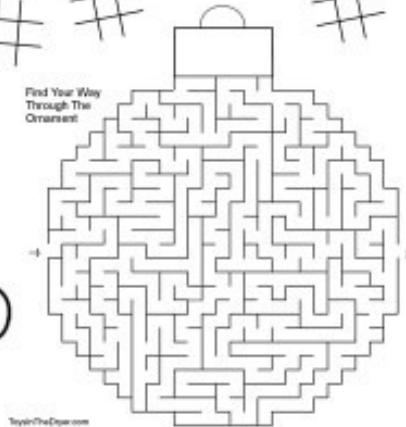
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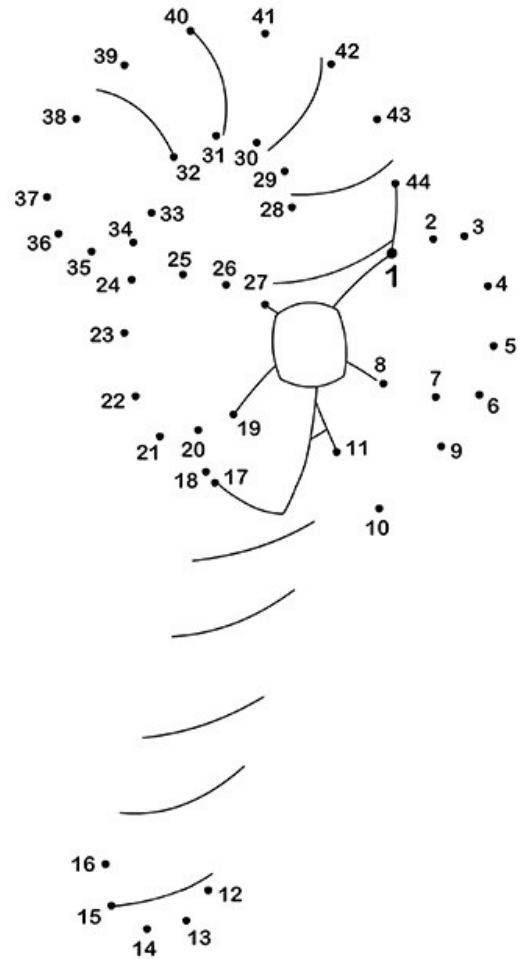
CANDY CANE
CAROLS
CHRISTMAS TREE
COOKIES
EGG HOG
ELVES
FAMILY
HOLLY
LIGHTS
REINDEER
SLEDGE
SNOW
STOCKING
STOCKING



Find Your Way
Through The
Ornament!



Tryin' The Diner.com



Bring Your Friends and
Join the Fun at Church!

Sunday Morning
10:30 am





RECIPE CORNER

Nuggets of Treasure

As we realize the impact of the gift of Jesus what better gift can we share than the gift of Jesus to others throughout the year; to lives that are in ruin, despair, discouragement, or disappointment? To those who think they are okay, good, and in control they need the gift of Jesus also. To those who have everything or to those destitute they need the gift of Jesus. To those just starting life or those nearing death they need the gift of Jesus. So in conclusion we all need the gift of Jesus. "For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father [of Eternity], Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6 (Amplified) What a wonderful gift that we have been given so enjoy every aspect of the gift.

Christmas Cranberry Salad

Ingredients

- 1 pound cranberries, finely ground
- 2 cups white sugar
- 1 (20 ounce) can crushed pineapple, drained
- 1 (16 ounce) package miniature marshmallows
- 1 cup chopped pecans (Optional)
- 1 pint whipped cream, beaten stiff



Directions

Mix cranberries and sugar together in a bowl. Cover and refrigerate, 8 hours to overnight.

The next day, beat cream in a chilled glass or metal bowl with an electric mixer until soft peaks form.

Remove cranberries from the refrigerator. Mix in drained pineapple, marshmallows, pecans, and whipped cream until well combined. Pour into a 3-quart dish, cover, and refrigerate or freeze for at least 1 hour before serving.



Nuggets of Treasure

For many, another Christmas is something with very little significance, it might be they have some sentimental feelings but that's all. For some, it is all in what they can receive. For others, Christmas is not a joyous time but an unhappy time. Some have no finances to purchase gifts or have a holiday meal, or their family will not be able to be present.

The day December 25, Christmas, is here today and gone tomorrow, but not with Jesus. People spend many hours preparing for something that lasts such a short time. Are we seeing through the glitter of Christmas? Too many people stress out instead of focusing on the significance of Christmas, the true meaning of Christ's birth. People are so caught up in making everything perfect that they do not enjoy their family, friends, etc. "He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree."—Roy L. Smith Christmas is more the decorations, lights, trees, gifts, parties, cards, or even greetings of "Merry Christmas."

Even though December 25 is not necessarily the day Christ was born; Christmas for believers is when we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus. He was a gift from the Father God who loved us so much that He gave His only begotten Son. Jesus gave His life so that we might be reconciled to the Father and receive eternal life.

Everyday Godly Living

Without Jesus and receiving what He did for us where would we be? The best gift we can ever receive is a new birth. Our lives should be filled with gratitude to the Father God for the immeasurable love shown to us in the gift of His Son. As we celebrate Christmas are we filled with gratitude and praise for God's gift to us?

For the fervent believer, Christmas is much more than a once-a-year celebration. It is a fresh awareness that Jesus our deliverer and redeemer was sent from heaven to become personally involved in the redemption and affairs of people. The effect of our relationship becomes a strong motivation to share the good news with needy and desperate people who need to know that there is a Savior available who can meet their every need. People must hear the Good News to benefit from it. We need to go tell it everywhere that Jesus Christ is the answer. How can we share our faith in the Lord more effectively in the days ahead? When people invite Jesus into their lives, they can have joy and peace throughout their life.

When we receive the Lord, it states that the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost. Loving to 'give' comes from the Lord. Giving is not just once a year at Christmas it is 365 days a year. We give because we

care about people. Giving is not just material things or money. We can give love, offer help, etc. A gift is the product of hard work, an expression of appreciation and love from one person to another.

Not only did the Father give us Jesus, but He gave us family, father, mother, and children is possibly one of God's most precious gifts. Do we give thanks to our families? Let's celebrate Christmas by sharing the good news of Jesus with others bringing them joy and peace. In addition, let us enjoy Christmas with our family celebrating the gift given to us by God, each of them.





DECEMBER 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30am MW/ Children/Youth 6:30pm Music Prac- tice 7pm Evening Service	2	3	4 Feed the Needy 12 pm - 2:00 pm 7pm Bible Study	5	6	7
8 10:30am MW/ Children/Youth 6:30pm Music Prac- tice 7pm Evening Service	9	10	11 Feed the Needy 12 pm - 2:00 pm 7pm Bible Study	12 Feed the Needy 4 pm - 6 pm	13	14
15 10:30am MW/ Children/Youth 6:30pm Music Prac- tice 7pm Evening Service	16	17	18 Feed the Needy 12 pm - 2:00 pm 7pm Bible Study	19 Feed the Needy 4 pm - 6 pm	20	21
22 10:30am MW/ Children/Youth 6:30pm Music Prac- tice 7pm Evening Service	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas	26 Feed the Needy 4 pm - 6 pm	27	28
29 10:30am MW/ Children/Youth 6:30pm Music Prac- tice 7pm Evening Service	30	31 New Year's Eve				