

Christmas

¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Luke 2:10-12 (NIV)

Creative idea, what would you give?

We are all familiar with the stories of the first few visitors who came to see Jesus and his parents in the days after his birth. Traditionally we think of them giving him gifts, the shepherds with a lamb and the Magi bringing gold, frankincense and myrrh. We exchange gifts at Christmas and put a great deal of thought into what we give the people we care about. But how do we respond to our loving Lord who knows us better than anyone and who loves us unconditionally? What can we give him in return for his love?



Share thoughts about what you could do this Christmas as a gift for our Saviour and a visible witness to his Lordship in your life. Why not buy an extra gift and give it to someone who may be on their own this Christmas.

Prayers

We think of those who will be on their own during the festive season without family and friends to celebrate with. We also remember those separated through work, illness, family breakdown or those in prison who cannot be with the people they love. We pray for the MU projects that support these people at this time of year.

Dear Lord,

Help us to simplify our activities this Christmas so we can focus on our celebration of your birth.

Thank you that you came to be the Prince of Peace, may your peace reign in our hearts today.

Thank you for your life-giving love for us, may we find new ways to share your love with those around us. Amen.

Dear Lord,

I thank you for coming to earth so you could redeem me.

I will be forever grateful that you have saved me and made me your own.

Without you, I would be lost and my life would lack purpose and direction.

But with you I know that I can face anything that life may bring. Alleluia!

Lord, you are still our Joy. You are still our Peace. But you are no longer a baby in the manger. *You are Lord of lords and King of kings. And we will honour you as our Lord, Master and Friend — this Christmas and always.*