

1. Take a few moments and think about some of the gifts you have received over your lifetime. Think back to your childhood and share one or two gifts you received that you really wanted and actually received. How about something you really wanted at the time but did not receive. How do you remember that now?
2. Think back and share a very unexpected gift. What was it, from whom did you receive it, and what did it mean to you then? Does it have any meaning even today? Have you ever thanked that person again way after the gift was given because of its importance? It might be a nice time to make a call or send an email or note.
3. Pastor Joel mentioned three different kinds of gifts at Christmas. Can you share some personal illustrations of "gift-for-gift gift" and a "gift for a favor" that you probably will receive this Christmas? What kind of emotional response does that create?
4. The final gift category was called "gifts of grace". Have you ever received that kind of a gift? Share what it was and why you would call it a "gift of grace"? How did you thank that person? Are these kinds of gifts ever difficult to actually receive?
5. Pastor Joel encouraged everyone to give some "gifts of grace" this year. What "gift(s) of grace" will you give?
6. I am sure that some of you have a very specific "gift of grace" that you would like to receive this year. What is it and who is the person that could actually give it?
7. Close your time in prayer about what was shared in your Lifegroup about the giving and receiving of grace gifts this Christmas season.