

# MAKING THE MOST OF CHRISTMAS

GETTING THE MOST from JESUS' BIRTH



**A Season for Giving**  
**Matthew 2:1–12; Acts 20:35**

## Introduction – The Heart of Christmas is Giving.

Do you know \_\_\_\_\_ people give? Because God is a \_\_\_\_\_. Listen to these Scripture verses: (Write them down)

The Bible reminds us that **Christmas is not about how \_\_\_\_\_ we give, but \_\_\_\_\_ we give**. In [Acts 20:35](#), the apostle Paul quotes Jesus: “*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*”

### 1. Give \_\_\_\_\_ – [Matthew 2:11](#)

*“And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”*

This verse tells us that the Wise men came to a \_\_\_\_\_. Next, we read, “*they saw the young child...*” It doesn’t say that they saw a “baby”, no, they saw a “\_\_\_\_\_ child”. We also know that King \_\_\_\_\_ ordered his soldiers to kill the male children in Bethlehem from two years old and younger ([Matthew 2:16](#)). Now, when the Wise men saw the “young child,”

they “\_\_\_\_\_ down and worshipped Him”, and then we read that they presented their gifts.

Don't miss the sequence: **worship** \_\_\_\_\_ **gifts** \_\_\_\_\_.

How can you and I worship first, and give second this Christmas?

- Start your day, and every day, with \_\_\_\_\_.
- Give gifts to \_\_\_\_\_ Christ. Take on God's nature.
- Give for \_\_\_\_\_ – help others grow in their walk with Jesus Christ.
- Include a \_\_\_\_\_ of encouragement, Bible verses with your giving.
- Seek to \_\_\_\_\_ someone in need.

Warren Wiersbe reminds us that “God looks at the \_\_\_\_\_ behind the gift, not the price tag. True giving is a reflection of worship.”

## 2. Give \_\_\_\_\_ – [Matthew 2:11](#)

<sup>11</sup> *And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*

The Wise men “*opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him*”. And their gifts were very \_\_\_\_\_, but they were also given very sacrificially – These gifts cost the Wise men!

### The Gifts of the Wise Men

- \_\_\_\_\_ – Was a symbol of royalty and wealth ([Matthew 2:2](#)). Jesus was born King of the Jews; this gift affirms His royal status ([Psalm 2:6](#); [Revelation 19:16](#)).
- \_\_\_\_\_ – Was a symbol of worship and adoration ([Exodus 30:34](#)). Pictures Jesus' role as a priest ([Hebrews 4:14-16](#)). He was the mediator between God and man ([1 Timothy 2:5](#)).

- \_\_\_\_\_ – Was a symbol of suffering and death ([John 19:39-40](#)). A foreshadowing of Jesus' crucifixion and sacrificial death ([Isaiah 53:3-5](#)).

The gifts of the Wise Men were brought with \_\_\_\_\_, faith, and intentionality. How can we give this Christmas sacrificially?

### The Poor Widow

We learn what it means to give \_\_\_\_\_ in the account of the poor widow in [Luke 21:1-4](#).

Perhaps instead of calling her “The Poor Widow,” we should call her “The \_\_\_\_\_ Widow.”

I would never suggest that a person give \_\_\_\_\_, but I would suggest that we give in a way that stretches us – that causes us to trust completely in the God who provides all our needs.

**Hear what I am about to say:** God honors sacrificial giving because it demonstrates \_\_\_\_\_, faith, and love.

### Larry Brotzman

His motto was so very simple: “**Givers are \_\_\_\_\_.**”

How can you and I give this Christmas sacrificially?

1. Consider giving \_\_\_\_\_ this season ([2 Corinthians 9:7](#)).
2. Give to those who can’t \_\_\_\_\_ or to gospel-centered causes ([2 Corinthians 8:1-5](#)).
3. Teach your \_\_\_\_\_ to give generously ([Luke 6:38](#)).
4. Model \_\_\_\_\_ so children learn through example.

**I love this statement:** True Christmas giving is never just transactional; it is \_\_\_\_\_.

3. **Give \_\_\_\_\_ – [Acts 20:35](#)**

*“In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”*

We need to learn to follow the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit. We must give as God leads us to give.

### **The \$ 100.00 Giver X 3**

Even the Wise men were \_\_\_\_\_ in their giving. Scripture tells us that they traveled far, guided by “*His star*” ([Matthew 2:2](#)).

Here are four practical ways we can **GIVE this Christmas**:

1. **Give some \_\_\_\_\_**: Give to a family in need, a local food bank, or a mission ministry.
2. **Give some \_\_\_\_\_ and service**: Offer childcare for a single parent, serve meals at a shelter, or help a neighbor.
3. **Give \_\_\_\_\_ gifts**: Give Scripture-based gifts (Gideon Bibles), devotional books (that last a year), or personalized encouragement. Give someone a Bible – the best seller of all time.
4. **Give as a \_\_\_\_\_** Engage your children in giving projects to teach the heart of generosity.

It was Jesus who said, “*It is more blessed to \_\_\_\_\_ than to receive.*”

**Conclusion** – Church family, make this Christmas a season of \_\_\_\_\_ that reflects the heart of God – GOD WAS/IS A GIVER, learn to become a giver. Three ways:

1. **Give \_\_\_\_\_** – let every gift be an act of adoration.
2. **Give \_\_\_\_\_** – don’t just give what’s convenient or leftover. Let it cost you.
3. **Give \_\_\_\_\_** – give with purpose, following God’s guidance.