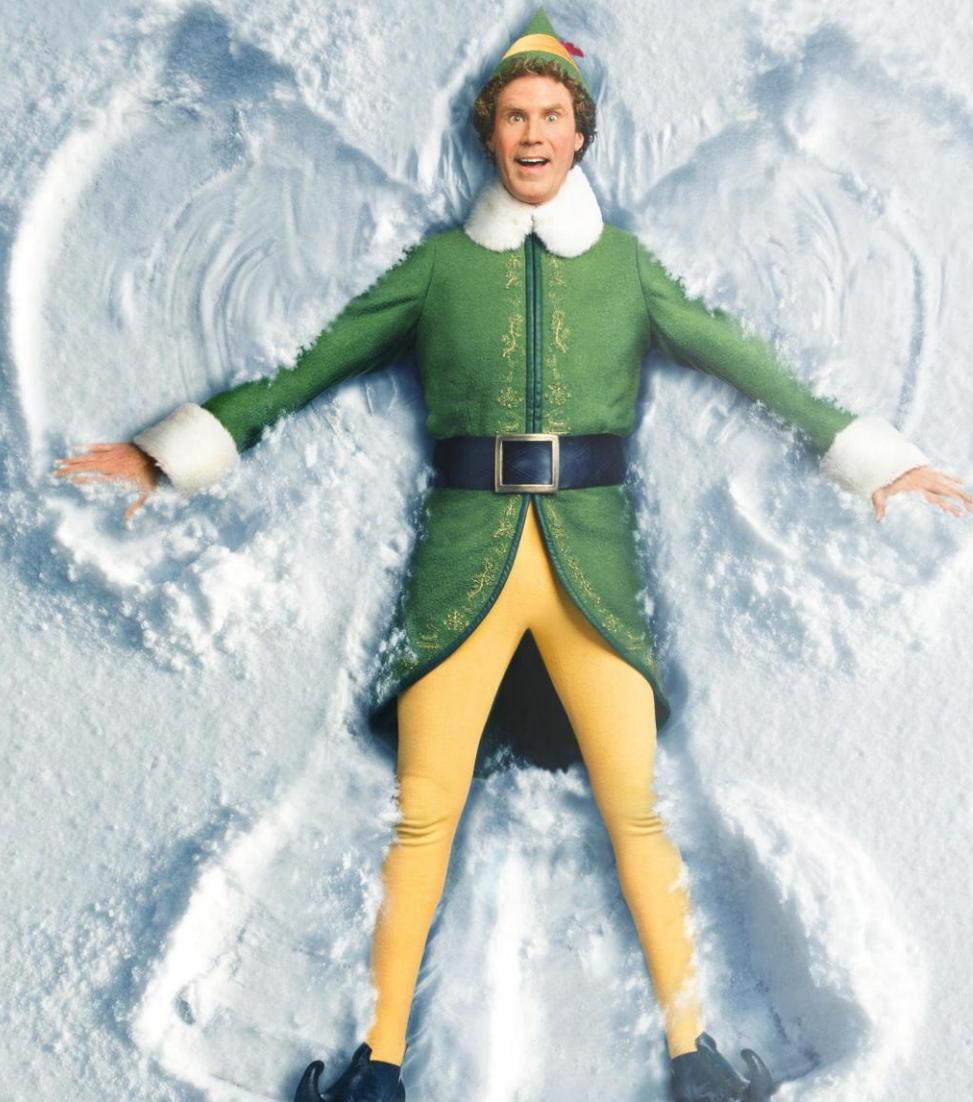




GIFT WRAPPING THE GOSPEL

elf



Do You See What I See?



John 13:34-35 Amp.

³⁴I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, so you too are to love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you have love and unselfish concern for one another."

Amplified Bible Note – John 13:34-35:

The key to understanding this and other statements about love is to know that this love (the Greek word *agape*) is not so much a matter of emotion as it is of doing things for the benefit of another person, that is, having an unselfish concern for another and a willingness to seek the best for another.

John 13:34-35 Amp.

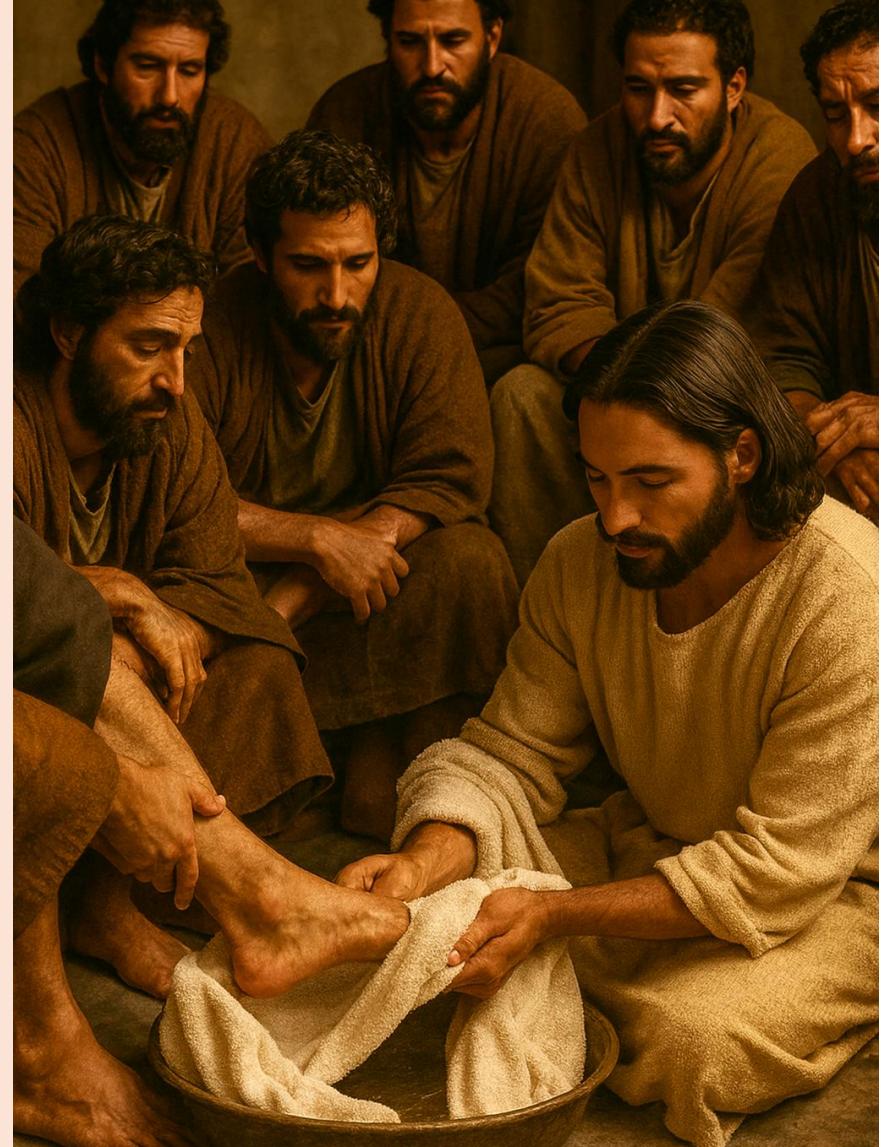
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Matthew 22:36-39 NLT

³⁶“Teacher, which commandment is the greatest in the Law?” ³⁷Jesus declared, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.

John 13:3-5 NIV

³Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.



1 Cor. 15:45 AMP

So it is written [in Scripture],
“The first man, Adam, became
a living soul (an individual);”
the last Adam (Christ)
became a life-giving spirit
[restoring the dead to life].





Jesus didn't die so you could get to God...

Jesus died so God could get to you...

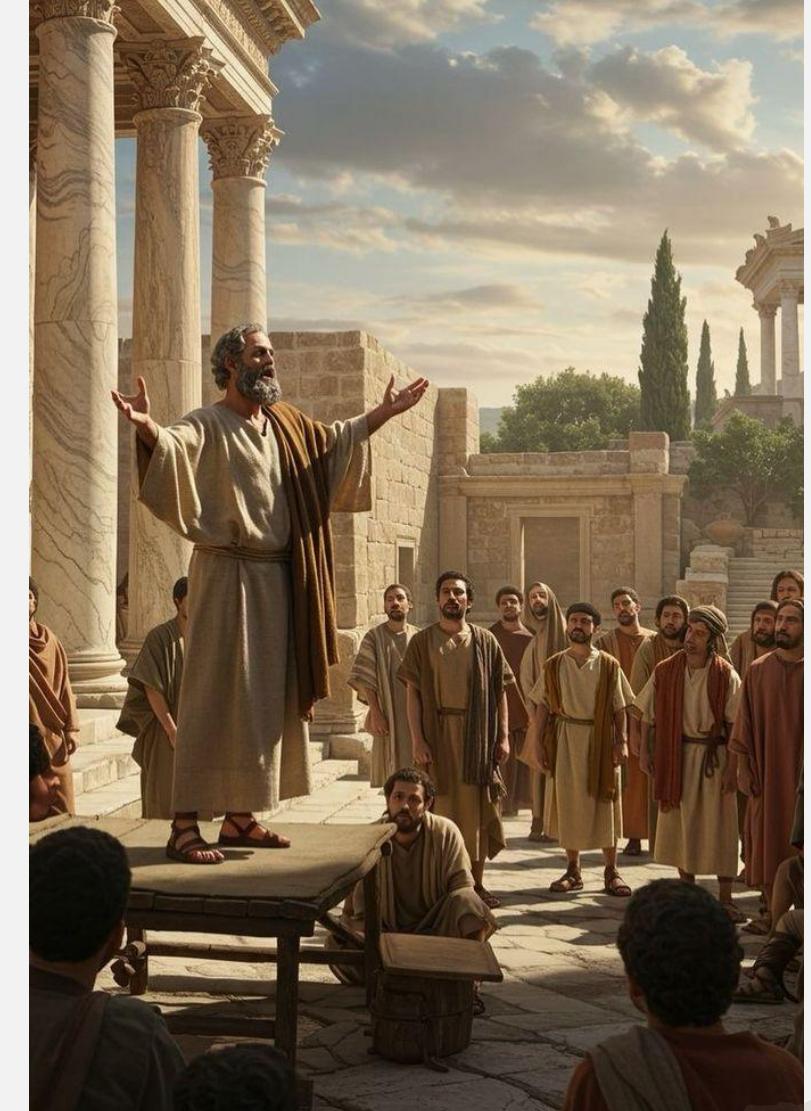


1 Cor. 9:19–23 NLT

“Even though I am a free man with no master, I have become a slave to all people to bring many to Christ. When I was with the Jews, I lived like a Jew to bring the Jews to Christ. When I was with those who follow the Jewish law, I too lived under that law. Even though I am not subject to the law, I did this so I could bring to Christ those who are under the law.

1 Cor. 9:19–23 NLT

When I am with the Gentiles who do not follow the Jewish law, I too live apart from that law so I can bring them to Christ. But I do not ignore the law of God; I obey the law of Christ. When I am with those who are weak, I share their weakness, for I want to bring the weak to Christ. Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings.”



John 1:5 NIV

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.



John 3:16 NIV

“For God so loved the world that He GAVE...”



ljb

A painting of Jesus holding a child. Jesus, with long brown hair and a beard, is wearing a simple brown robe. He is holding a young child in his arms, with his right hand resting on the child's head. The child is wearing a blue and white striped shirt. The background is a soft, warm yellow and orange, suggesting a sunset or a divine glow.

**Christmas is not a
shopping season...**

It is not a sales event...

**Christmas is not a
marketing scheme....**

Christmas is a Person.

Please Consider for this coming week:

1. Choose one person to intentionally love this week ...perhaps someone who's difficult, discouraged, or distant. Do something to demonstrate your love.
2. Who is God calling you to give a gift of the gospel to this Christmas season? Perhaps someone you could invite to come to church with you. Or maybe someone you could share your testimony with.
3. Ask God to increase your capacity for compassion.