



The Real Gift of Christmas

1 John 5:1-5

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves the child born of Him. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and follow His commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. ⁴For whoever has been born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world: our faith.

⁵Who is the one who overcomes the world, but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

God's gift to us is His Son. He truly came in the flesh. He was not a phantom. He was fully God and fully man (1 John 4:2). We demonstrate an appreciation for the gift, no matter what difficulties we experience through our lives, when we commit to habitually live out His Word. This brings the gift of God, His Son, to life, by the way we love others. So our gift to others is a result of our daily experience of God's gift to us.

Discussion Questions:

1. What is your lifetime best memory of Christmas?
2. How did the meaning of Christmas for you change before and after knowing Christ?
3. Do you consider yourself someone easy or difficult to love? How can the understanding of God's love for us translate to loving people?

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16:33 [NIV]