

Written by Deb Podgorny

THE PERFECT GIFT

Ahhh, December! The month of mirth and merriment, gatherings of loved ones, pretty lights and happy times.

Ugh, December!! The month of endless shopping for the perfect gift, endless baking, endless gatherings and endless days of stress.

I don't think either December scenario is what God intends for us.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 NIV

God's perfect gift to us is Jesus. The question is, how do we honor the Perfect Gift? Oh, we may go to church on Christmas Eve, sing Silent Night and light some candles. That's enough, right? Did you know, many unchurched are attracted to the traditions of Christmas particularly those demonstrated in Christmas Eve services? How is Jesus being worshiped if the traditions of Christmas are the attraction?

Friends, are family, community or church traditions wrong at Christmas time? Of course not! Failing to include Jesus in our day to day is.

"But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life." Titus 3:4-7 NIV

Ladies, let's take time to honor the Perfect Gift starting with this Advent Season by shutting off the noise and distractions. Gather your family or sit by yourself at the feet of the Perfect Gift and allow the Holy Spirit to wash over you. Sit in the silence and feel their presence. No gift is greater.

Father God, thank you for loving us. Thank you for the Perfect Gift of Jesus, no other gift can compare. Thank you for the Holy Spirit whose gifts to us are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Thank you for the gift of eternal life with You. We need nothing else. In the most holy name of Jesus let it be so with each of us. Amen and Amen.