

A Gift

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Introduction before the lesson:

- As we celebrating **Christmas today**, is not only about holiday, good times and gifts. The true meaning of Christmas is about God's most precious gift to us all. He gave His only son to save us.

Scripture : John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8

- Hold up a wrapped Christmas gift. Lead the children to discuss the giving of gifts at Christmas and how much fun it is to give.

Ask questions like:

- Do you have to work or pay to receive a gift?
- Why do we give gifts?
- How do you know who the gift is for?
- Tell the children that God sent us a special gift that is for everyone. Quote John 3:16. Tell them that it really means to EVERYONE, and even to them that would like to receive it.
- Explain that we don't have to earn the gift or do anything other than receive it.

Read Romans 2:8: *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--"*

- However, the gift is not really ours until we choose to receive it. It is of no use to us unless we take it for ourselves, unwrap it, and make it our own.
- God's gift of salvation through Jesus Christ is the same. It is not ours automatically. We must first choose to receive it.

Matthew 7:8: *" For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."*

John 3:36: *"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."*

- Teacher tells the birth of Jesus Christ is a special gift from God.
- Use the picture of Christmas nativity or display to explain to the children how Jesus Christ is born.
- Ask the children to participate in telling the story by asking some questions like :
 - "This is a stable. Why would I be putting up a stable?" Take input from the children. "Jesus was born in a stable because there was no room for him to be born in the inn.
 - What did God ask Mary to do?" Take input from the children.
 - Who came to see baby Jesus?..etc

Class Activity