

A FAMILY  
*Christmas Treasury*

Adrian Rogers



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# Introduction

What a glorious season Christmas is—because we have a glorious Savior! My deepest desire for you this Christmas is that the Lord Jesus will become more precious and near to you than He has ever been before. My prayer is that this little book might become a beautiful part of your Christmas this year in one of three ways.

**A Christmas Gift.** First, if you give or receive this as a gift on Christmas Day, turn to the December 25 selection and share with your family on Christmas Day! Then read the daily selections as a family for the rest of the year. What a wonderful way to celebrate the Savior's birth and bring in the new year with the Savior's blessing!

**A Christmas Preparation.** Better yet, if you receive your copy before December 1, make the twenty-four days preceding Christmas wonderful days of preparation, with Christmas a day of special celebration, and the rest of the year a heartfelt time of reflection.

**A Family Tradition.** Best of all, keep this little book as a family Christmas treasury—to reread, reflect upon, and reaffirm the glorious gift of our gracious Savior year after year.

However this book comes into your home, may the devotional reflections in these pages draw you closer to the One Who is God's perfect Gift—to Jesus Himself, our steadfast *love*, our shining *light*, our saving *lamb*, our sovereign *Lord*, and our satisfying *life*.

Lastly, note that each day's devotional includes an activity to help you apply these truths to your life and your family. Some are especially suitable for young children, some especially for families with older children. So above all, feel free to pick and choose the ones that are best for your own family—and don't be afraid to create your own family memories!

God bless you and keep you, and may the Christ of Christmas reveal Himself to you in a new and dynamic way!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adrian Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'A'.

PART ONE

*Jesus,  
the Steadfast Love*



## *Today's Reading*

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

JOHN 3:16

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become as sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1



DECEMBER 1

## *Love Came Down*

**D**id you know that the true message of Christmas is found in John 3:16? Jesus said, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

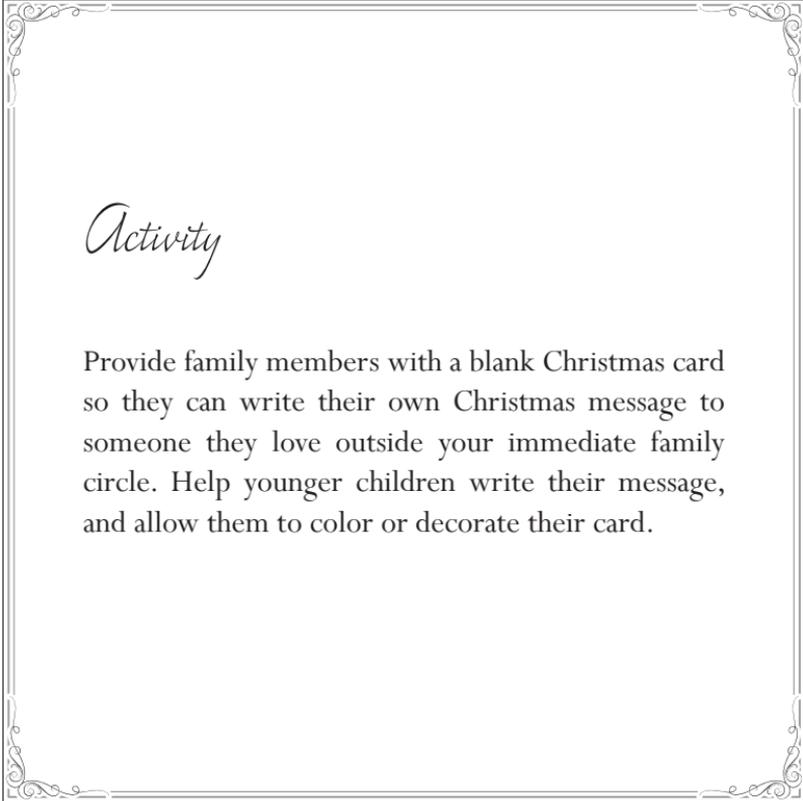
This is the heart of Christmas. Jesus is God’s great love gift, because Jesus came to give His life that we might have life and “have it more abundantly” (John 10:10). Without a doubt, *love came down at Christmas.*

Now, because Jesus loved us enough to die on the cross for our sins, what better Christmas gift could we give others than to share His love with them, that they might have life? Love is a gift our world desperately needs this Christmas season.

In order to know and share Christ's love, we need to know how Christlike love looks and acts. And the best place to find a well-rounded description of love is in the Bible's great love chapter, 1 Corinthians 13.

Let's concentrate on verse 1. What Paul has in mind here is the *agape* love of God. In verse 1, Paul writes, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become as sounding brass or a clanging cymbal." What Paul is saying here is that love is absolutely indispensable. The finest oratory on earth is no substitute for love.

We've all heard the expression, "He talks a better game than he plays." Paul isn't forbidding us to talk about love. We need to be a witness. But when it comes to sharing Christ's love this Christmas, we need to back up our verbal witness with the quality of our lives!



## *Activity*

Provide family members with a blank Christmas card so they can write their own Christmas message to someone they love outside your immediate family circle. Help younger children write their message, and allow them to color or decorate their card.

## *Today's Reading*

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:2–3



DECEMBER 2

## *The Value of Love*

**H**ow important is love? Think of its value. According to 1 Corinthians 13:2–3, it’s more important than a lot of things we consider to be important. In verse 2, Paul gives us a very impressive list of gifts and abilities that, taken together, add up to nothing when Christlike love is missing from our lives.

The gift of prophecy is the first gift on Paul’s list (v. 2). I know enough about preaching to know that if you want to get a crowd, you can announce that you are going to preach a series of messages on prophecy. Man has an insatiable curiosity about prophecy. Far more people will come to hear a Bible study on prophecy than on love. But Paul says that love is greater than prophecy.

And then Paul says love is greater than knowledge. People today value knowledge tremendously. They almost worship it. But as John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, once said, “All knowledge without love is splendid ignorance.”

According to 1 Corinthians 13:2, love is even greater than faith. Now faith is incredibly important. You cannot know God without faith. Paul even strengthens the contrast here by talking about mountain-moving faith. What believer would not long for mountain-moving faith? Yet without love, even this mountain-moving kind of faith is nothing. What good is it to remove mountains if you can't remove malice from your heart?

Are you giving people the gift of love this Christmas? Verse 3 fits right in this theme, because it talks about feeding the poor and even giving our lives for the sake of others. Surely there is nothing greater you can do than to give all you have or lay down your life for another.

Some people give money instead of love. You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving. People need to see Christmas love in action. How will you show Christ's love this Christmas?

## *Activity*

Make a “Christmas Gift for Jesus” out of a jar or small box. Decorate it to look Christmassy, cut a hole in the top, and put it on the kitchen table. Encourage the family to begin putting money in the bank so you can present a family Christmas gift to your church or to a needy charity as a testimony of your love for Jesus.