



TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH • HELP • HEALING • HOPE

Dear Ministry Partners;

Do you see what Christmas is? Christmas is really the celebration of an invasion. It's a close encounter of the God kind. God invaded earth over 2,000 years ago as a human being. Why? So we could know He's not some big force in the sky. He wants us to know what He's really like. Now I can look at Jesus and say, "Oh, that's what God is like." By getting to know Jesus, I find out that He's not some impersonal force in the sky.

How did He come into the world? The same way all of us did: as a baby. Why? Because nobody is afraid of a baby. God didn't come to scare us, but to save us. The bible says Jesus came to seek and to save. And He's been seeking you. He says, "I offer you forgiveness for your past, peace of mind in the present, and a solid future in eternity." Those are the gifts. How do you find these gifts? They're all wrapped up in Christ!

What a better time than at Christmas to make contact? Can you imagine being given a gift at Christmas and never unwrapping it? It would be silly. And yet, many of us continue to move a little closer to God Christmas after Christmas after Christmas. We've celebrated every Christmas for as many years as we are old; we know the songs and the stories, and we know what it's all about, but have we unwrapped the gift?

For many that come to Grace Mission, they have never "unwrapped" the gift. They have moved closer to God at Christmas but they still hold the wrapped gift in their hands getting to it "one of these days". At Grace Mission, we encourage everyone to "tear open the gift" – open their hearts to a relationship with Jesus Christ in a personal way. When they "tear open the gift" they discover that Jesus clears up their past, take care of their present, and secures their future. That's one gift they will never get anywhere else. They can't find it under the Christmas tree. It's all wrapped up in Christ.

The miracle of Christmas and the best gift of all are found in Bethlehem!

Please remember Grace Mission in your prayers and in your generous Christmas giving this hopeful season. Make this Christmas one of "a close encounter of the God-kind" for someone who might be lost and is in desperate need to hear about the incredible gift they have in Jesus Christ.

Have a glorious celebration of His birth,

Pastor Amanda+

Please enjoy the handmade Christmas cards from all of us at Grace Mission.

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