

Message Reflections

a little something extra to keep you connected to Jesus this week

Message Reflections accompany the [weekly message](#).

We all have that person who is hard to buy for. They may already have everything or they may be hard to please. You might draw their name and wince, already wrecking your brain trying to think of something to get them. These are the same people who will say they don't need anything or want anything when asked for ideas. They may also say something like, "Spending time with you is enough." Yeah, yeah...seriously, what can I get you?

Now imagine that person is a king. What could you possibly get a king as a gift? I can't afford anything that might please a king. What if that person was THE king of kings, the one who made everything in heaven and on earth. What kind of gift could ever please him? He already has literally every thing.

This weekend we learned about gold and that it was often considered the best gift to give a king. We heard how one of the wise men brought the gift of gold to Jesus, how the queen of Sheba brought 9,000 pounds of it for King Solomon, and how the Most Holy Place in the temple was coated in pure gold. It was well established that gold was an extravagant gift, one fit for a king. All I have to offer is my imperfect self with my imperfect worship.

We were asked: How will you extravagantly worship THE KING this season? We could give God all the gold we own and it still wouldn't be enough for a king. What could He possibly want from us? Thankfully, God actually tells us and He had men write it down for us in His word:

"But Samuel replied, 'What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.'"

1 Samuel 15:22

"You do not desire a sacrifice or I would offer one. You do not want a burnt offering. The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God."
Ps 51:16-17

"I want you to show love, not offer sacrifices. I want you to know me more than I want burnt offerings." Hosea 6:6

The older I get the more precious relationships become and the more I want to be known. Time is a precious commodity. God wants our heart, soul, mind, and strength—everything we are. He also wants to fully reveal Himself to us in return. In other words, to know and be known. He also desires our repentance and obedience. To know God is to acknowledge His holiness and that He is indeed God. To know God is to fall on our knees, prostrating, as we worship. To know God is to understand we are nothing without Him but that with Him we are royalty.

There's one more verse I will share with you, Matthew 25:40: *"And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it (see v. 34-39) to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'"* I will serve and give extravagantly to others this season as a form of worship. How are you going to extravagantly worship THE KING this season?

