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Christmas Greetings & Blessings to You From Tecate.

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From Rebecca Heib <rebecca.heib@rebecca4jesus.com>

Date Mon 12/23/2024 1:24 AM

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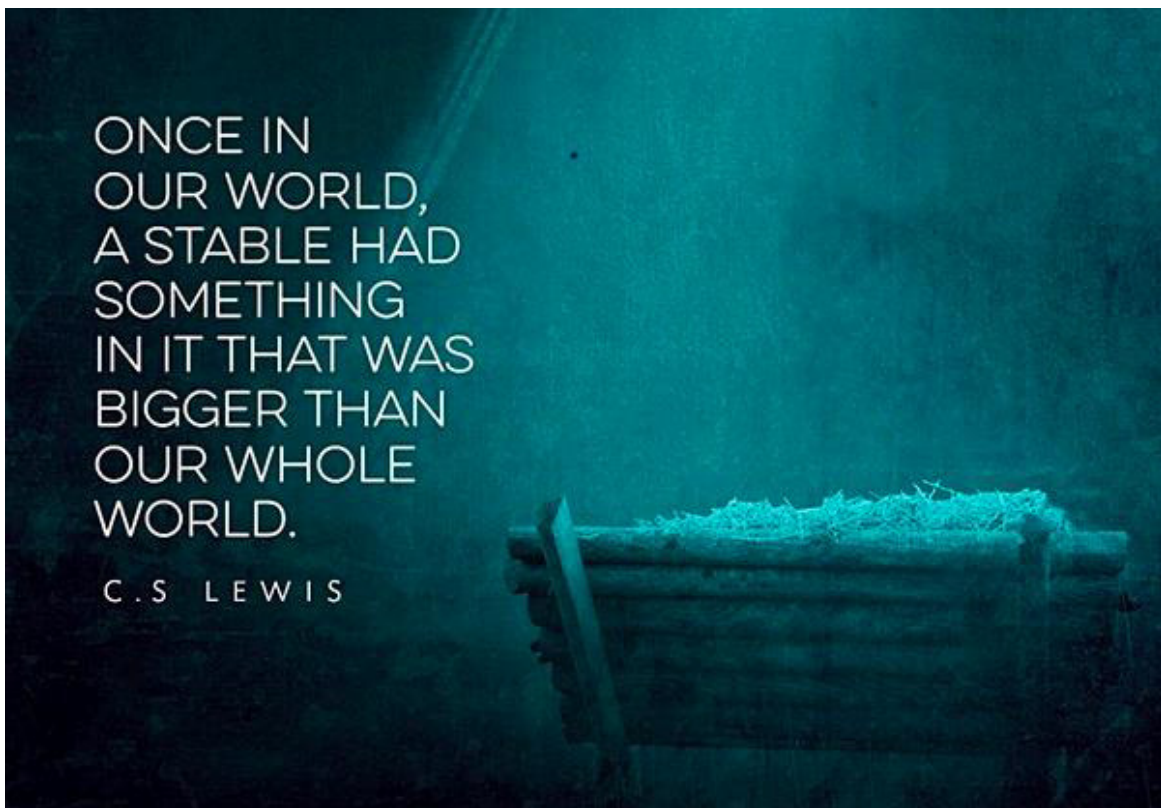
*Dear Friend,*

I pray the peace of Christ is filling your life with hope anew this Christmas season. A Bible verse that I have been meditating on is Matthew 1:23: *"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him 'Immanuel' (which means 'God with us')..."*

This scripture means a lot to me, as it defines the very meaning of Christmas. The incarnation of God taking on human form, born as a helpless baby, is the reason we celebrate this special holiday. No one, living or dead, has transformed the human soul or changed the course of history like Jesus has.

The fact that God wrapped Himself in flesh and came to earth in order to reconcile humanity to himself is a "...gift too wonderful for words." (2 Corinthians 9:15 NLT)

During this time of Christmas, it is my prayer that God will reveal Himself to you in a personal and profound way - a way *too wonderful for words!*



## ***Unwrapping Eternal Joy This Christmas***

Each December here at Tecate Christian School, I always ponder ways to help my students focus on the *true meaning* of Christmas, which is the celebration of our Savior's birth.

As children are always excited about receiving presents, this year I thought it would be wonderful for my students to learn about and experience the *presents* we receive from Jesus. To do this, I did a study in the Bible on gifts we are given in Christ. I narrowed it down to thirteen gifts, since that is the number of students I have.

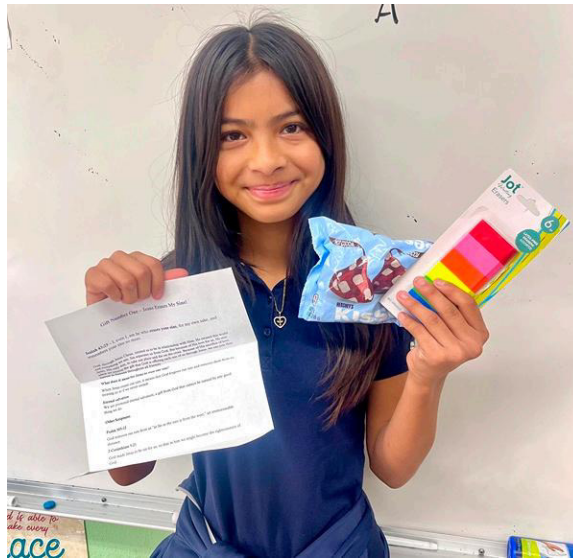
I then found physical items that represent each of these blessings at places like *The Dollar Store* and a few local thrift stores. Once I got the thirteen presents, I wrapped each one and placed it under our "Cross Christmas tree."

Every day in December, one student drew a name out of a box. Whoever's name was drawn that day got to open the *gift from Jesus*. Included with each gift was a detailed note explaining what the gift was and how the physical gift is related to the spiritual gift.

Following each gift being opened was a class discussion on the meaning of the gift and how we receive it. This ended up being a very meaningful lesson for the children as it led to a deeper understanding into God's character, His great love for us, and why God coming as *Emmanuel* is truly the greatest gift to each of us!







*These are some of the gifts that were part of our "Gifts from Jesus."*

***Pack of Erasers (our sins taken away).***

"I, even I, am He that blots out your transgressions for my own sake and will not remember your sins." ~ Isaiah 43:25. All our sins are forgiven when we surrender our life to Jesus.

***Pen and Journal (our name written in the Book of Life).***

"...rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven." ~ Luke 10:20

"Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life." ~ Revelation 21:27

When we know Christ as our Savior, our names are written in the Book of Life.

***Mansion (a home in heaven).***

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." ~ John 14:2

Jesus is preparing a place for us to live with Him in Heaven! You could also read Revelation 21:10-27, which describes the new Jerusalem and all the beautiful things that will be there.

***Receipt, stamped "Paid in Full" in rugged, wood frame (our sin debt paid).***

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." ~ Romans 6:23

Jesus paid our sin debt by dying on the cross for our sins.

***Framed Adoption Certificate (adopted into God's family).***

"Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will...for you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household," ~ Ephesians 1:5 & 2:19

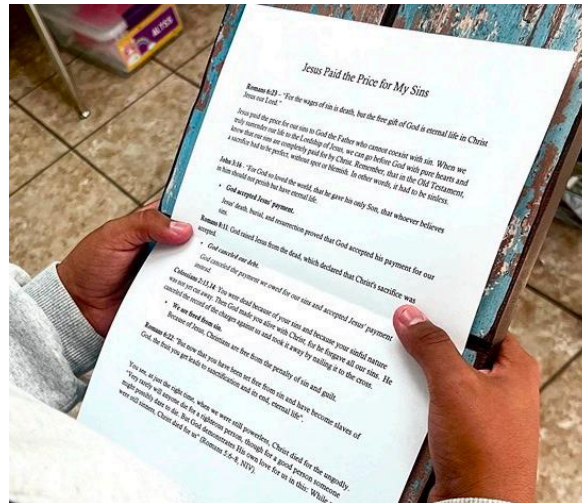
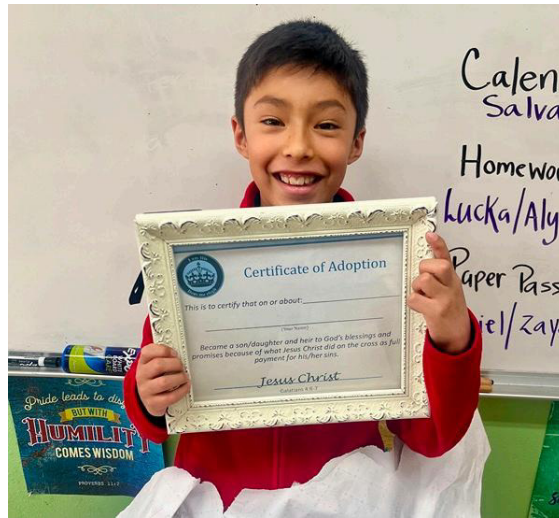
What a blessing to be adopted into the family of God, to be joint heirs with Christ.

***Nativity Scene Night Light (the gift of Jesus coming into our world).***

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

"This is how God showed His love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins" ~ 1 John 4:9-10

Jesus was the greatest gift we have ever received. He came on that first Christmas—delivered in a person from God the Father to us. A gift indescribable...too wonderful for words!





### ***I'll be Home for Christmas***

I will be arriving in Seattle next week on Tuesday, December 24th and I will be in the area until January 6th. I would love to see you and get together.

Please contact me on my cell at 425-445-5433 so we can schedule a time to meet.  
Thank you!



“ONLY ONE LIFE,  
'T WILL SOON BE PAST,  
ONLY WHAT'S DONE  
FOR CHRIST WILL LAST.”

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CT STUDD

MISSIONARY TO CHINA, INDIA AND AFRICA



***"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." - Romans 12:12***

*Thank you for standing with me in prayer. Your prayers do make a difference.*

**Answered Prayers:**

- \* Praise the Lord for fruitful parent/teacher conferences during November, and the deepening relationships that are forming with the families in my class
- \* For continued protection and safety here at the border.
- \* Praise God for providing a vehicle while visiting Seattle.
- \* For preserving my health and sustaining me throughout many difficulties these last few months.

**Prayer Requests:**

- \* Please pray for the salvation of each child in my class.
- \* For the "spiritual seeds" that were planted during parent/teacher conferences to bear fruit -- for more opportunities to share the gospel here.
- \* Please pray for the Lord to send more workers to Tecate Mission. We are in great need of teachers and a principal.
- \* For God's protection as I will be traveling to Seattle over the Christmas holiday.

***Grateful for you and your partnership!***

Sometimes people want to give an additional year end donation. Should you choose to do this for me, it will go towards a vehicle fund that I am building.

With an older 2007 vehicle, costly maintenance and repairs are imminent. The purpose of this vehicle fund is to have immediate access to funds when a major repair is needed, or when the time comes and my current vehicle needs to be replaced.

Thank you for being a vital part of this ministry in sharing the amazing love of Jesus with the families here. Your prayers, support, and encouragement mean so much.

I pray you and your family have a wonderful, joyous Christmas season.

With gratitude and hope,  
Rebecca Heib  
Missionary  
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Tecate Mission International

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***For giving, please send to Tecate Mission International for Rebecca Heib, #113. PO Box 1000***

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*To give via credit card or PayPal, or to set up a direct deposit from your bank, please visit:*

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