

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

A presentation

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With Outline and PowerPoint by Lin Pearson

OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION

This is a simple outline. You can adapt it and bring whatever challenge you feel appropriate, in whatever way you feel communicates best to your particular group.

Do not learn the words below. They are simply a suggestion as to how the slides may be structured and the teaching developed.

Where you see a triangle in the outline [▶], click for the next slide.

TITLE

[Have the first slide showing for a moment or two. Then begin something like this:]

...Christmas!

▶ THINK BUBBLE

What do you think of when you hear the word Christmas?

▶ TREE

The tree, lights and decorations? Or maybe, if you live in a cold country...

▶ SNOWMAN

...The snow and all the fun you might have.

▶ SANTA

Maybe when you hear the word Christmas you think of that “special person” who you hope will come to your home!

▶ GIFTS

I expect you will all think of presents.

Yes - Christmas is a time for gifts.

▶ OPEN BIBLE

The Bible tells that Christmas is a time for giving. It tells us about the first Christmas and all the gifts that were given that night and later.

▶ MARY

[Explain in your own words who she was and what the angel had said to her.

Explain how there would be no earthly Father. That God would do a miracle and put the baby within her. Mary agreed to let God have his way]

▶ GIFT: “HER BODY”

Mary gave her body so that the baby could grow inside her and be born.

▶ JOSEPH

People might have thought that the baby was Joseph's son. He was a good man and it looked like he had done wrong. But Joseph agreed when Mary told him, that God must have his way. He promised to look after Mary and the baby, no matter what other people said about him.

▶ HIS REPUTATION

Joseph gave his reputation, the good things that people had thought about him.

▶ THE INN KEEPER

His place was packed, but he still found somewhere for Mary to have the baby.

▶ HIS STABLE

He gave the stable.

▶ ANGELS

Out in the fields the shepherds saw and heard the angels

▶ THEIR PRAISE

The angels gave their praise *[Explain what the angels were saying and why]*

▶ SHEPHERDS

All this was seen by shepherds, who went and told others of what they had seen

▶ WITNESS

They gave their witness to all who would hear them. that means they told the truth about everything they had seen, heard and experienced themselves.

▶ STAR

Over the stable was a star

▶ ITS LIGHT

It gave its light to mark the place where the baby lay

▶ WISE MEN on camels

Later wise men came, following the star

▶ THEIR TREASURES

They brought their treasures *[explain what and why]*

▶ GOD GAVE

▶ John 3: 16 - [read the words on screen]

▶ 2 Cor. 9:15 - [read this line also]

God gave...but WHAT did he give?

▶ BABY IN STRAW

He gave his only Son, Jesus Christ. Not only to be born as a human being but to suffer in our place

▶ CROWN OF THORNS AND NAILS

[Speak here a little about Jesus dying to take out punishment. God gave him up to death and Jesus gave his life for us]

▶ HANDS OUTSTRETCHED.

This Christmas, as your hands are outstretched for the gifts you will receive, will you think about that first Christmas. The people I have spoken about were not expecting gifts for themselves, instead they gave to God.

Mary, Joseph, the innkeeper, the angels, the shepherds, the star and the wise men - all gave.

▶ WHAT WILL YOU GIVE?

So what will you give to God?

[Here you can explain the gospel. The need to receive Christ for salvation and to give him our lives. Develop this theme as you think best.]

▶ PRAYING CHILDREN

[This slide gives you the opportunity, if you choose to use it, of illustrating children committing themselves to God, so that they, like Mary and Joseph, can follow God's plan for their lives.]

▶ FADE TO BLACK

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