

Christmas Giving for Children in Need

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Instill the spirit of giving at Christmastime by helping family members choose a toy to buy and give to a child in need.

For

Young Family

Season

Winter

Needed

Bible



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Prepare in Advance

- Mark your Bible at Matthew 2:9-11; 1 John 3:17; and 2 Corinthians 9:7.
- Plan a shopping trip with your child(ren) to buy a toy.
- Choose where to donate the toy, such as to a local community or church Christmas gift project or Toys for Tots.

Activity Plan

1. Say this prayer aloud to begin.

Dear God, thank you for always being so generous with us. Help us to be generous with others this Christmastime. Amen.

2. Have one family member read aloud Matthew 2:9-11 from your Bible or the text at the end of this activity. Talk about how the wise men brought gifts to young Jesus. Explain how your family can be God's wise people and bring gifts to children in need.
3. Have another family member read aloud 1 John 3:17 and 2 Corinthians 9:7 from your Bible or the text at the end of this activity. As a family, talk about the meaning of these teachings.
4. Talk about how some families don't have enough money for the basics of living and, therefore, cannot afford to buy Christmas presents for their children.
5. Explain that your family is going shopping to buy a new toy for a child in need. If you have more than one child, consider letting each child choose one toy to buy and give. Before you go shopping, set a budget so family members know what can be spent.
6. Go to the store together. Let your child(ren) choose a toy within your budget to buy to give away.
7. As a family, deliver the new toy to the collection site for the Christmas gift project you have chosen. If you have chosen Toys for Tots, visit [Toys for Tots](https://www.toysfortots.org/) to find a drop-off location near you. Note that most Christmas gift projects want toys to be unwrapped.
8. After delivering the toy, talk about what it felt like to buy a toy to give away. Discuss: Why is it important to help others at Christmastime?

Matthew 2:9-11

⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

1 John 3:17

¹⁷ But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

2 Corinthians 9:7

⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

