



YOUTH CROSS
EXPERIENCE
CHRISTIAN MAGAZINE



God's Gift

Born to give us life - Born to save our souls
Born to bring us light - Born to take us home

Issue 13

October/November/December 2022

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by Britney Jenine

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Editorial

God's Gift

A precious gift was given to the world on that still night in Bethlehem. The screams of a mother, birthing the Son of God in a manger, humbly placing Him to lay calmly on the hay. As many approached to see, following the star which led to the King, kneeling before the Savior of the world. An act, a miracle, purely demonstrating the love of God.

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” Luke 2:14

A gift so beautiful, shining light so bright and love so deep. Humility from the Father, with mercy and grace. Saying to us “I love you so much, that I will walk like you walk, and die like you die, but with my death will come life for you forever.”

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

My gift to you is salvation, my gift to you is freedom. I'm giving you a taste of unconditional love, showing you that I understand your feelings. I can relate to your pain and I am here to take it away.

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

I am here for you ...

God understands you and He came to this earth to reconcile you back to Him. He gave us Jesus, Himself in the flesh, to show us how much we mean to Him. He humbled himself, though He could have arrived in a grand style, to show us just how lowly and beautiful His heart is. That He wouldn't mind laying in a manger because a palace without those He love is empty. He came to us so that we can be with Him in His palace and love Him just as much as He loves us.

“Who, being in very nature a God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself

nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:6-11

God took the first step and stretched out His hand. He said “I am here for you, Come to me”. He took the first step when He created the world, when He gave breath to Adam. He took the first step when He placed His Spirit in Mary and was born of the flesh to teach the world of His love. He took the first step when He died on the Cross for our sins, granting us forgiveness and grace. And now, He is waiting for you to take the first step to get to know Him and to see Him for the true King that He is.

This Christmas, give Jesus a chance, not for anyone, but if you want to know why He is our King, here is an invitation to ask Him why.

“Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.” Psalm 34:8



By Britney Jenine (EIC)

COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

Arrangement by **Michael Guy Chislett, Matt Crocker, Ben Tan & Karina Wykes**

VERSE 1

O come all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye o come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of angels
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

VERSE 2

Sing choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above
Glory to God
Glory in the highest
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

CHORUS

Hallelujah hallelujah
The King has come

VERSE 3

Yes Lord we greet Thee
Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be the glory given
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

POST CHORUS

Oh come all ye faithful
Come let us adore Him
Oh sing hallelujah
Come let us adore Him

God's Gift: God's greatest gift is Love

In James 1:17, we read that “Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows”. God’s most precious gift is JESUS. Isaiah 7:14 “Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel.”

We often experience God's love through our relationships with other people. God loves you just the way you are, but he also loves you enough to not let you stay the way you are. John 15:13 “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends”. God wants us to grow and change and this could only be made possible through his son Jesus Christ who was sacrificed for you and I so that our sins may be forgiven. Romans 5:8 “God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us”. God's heart is overflowing with love and we can rely on him to love us just as much every day. 1 John 3:1 “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God and so we are, the reason why the world does not know us is because the world does not know Christ”. If we allow God's love into our hearts then we will be able to love like God loves too, with God's unconditional love we are granted eternal life, as long as we keep the faith.



We receive grace and forgiveness from God through our mistakes. God is our biggest supporter. When we succeed, He succeeds. He is always there for us. 1 John 4:9-10 “In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only son into

the world, that we might live through him. In this love not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

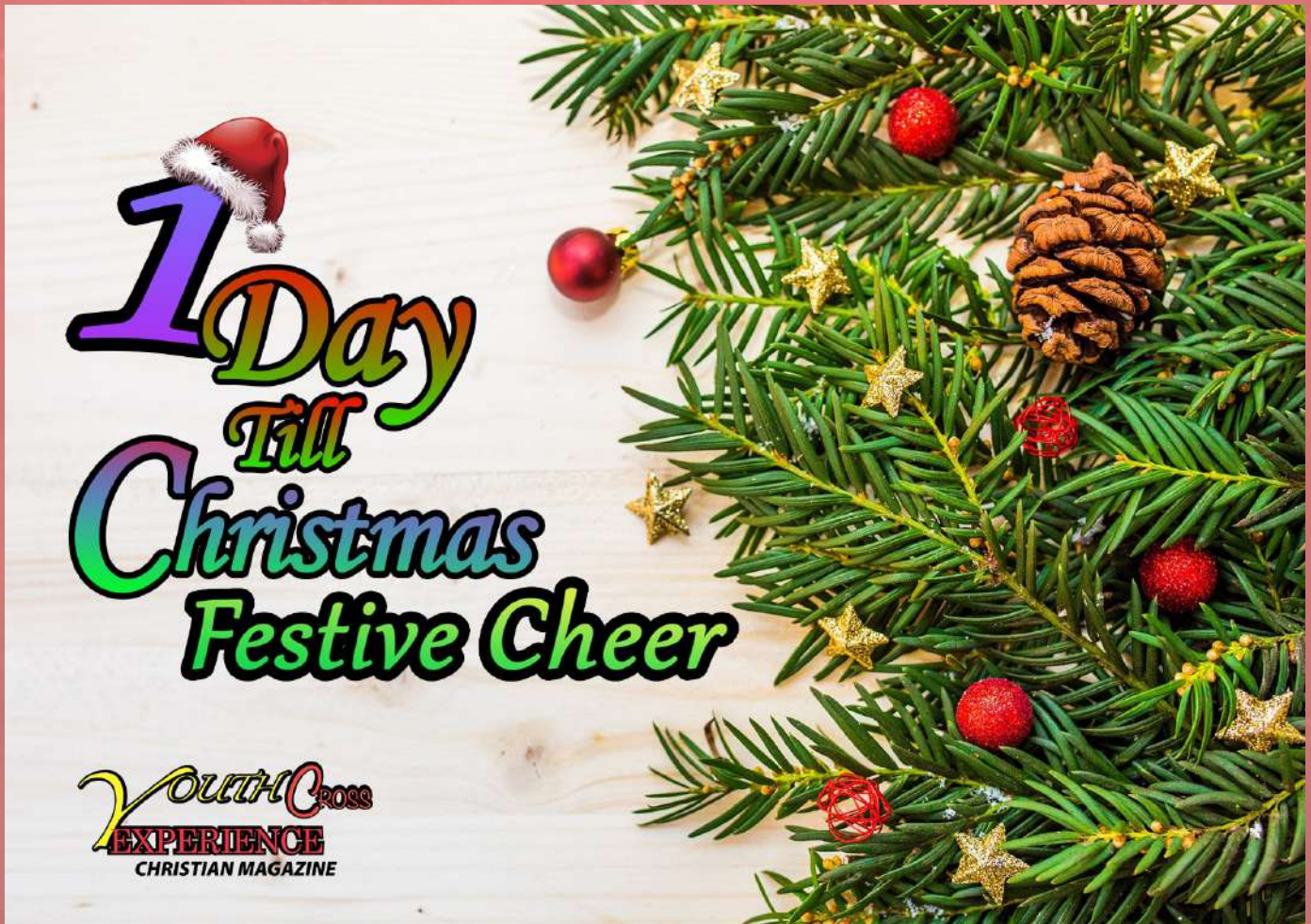
The greatest blessing is to be called a child of God, whom he loves the same way that parents love their children. Regardless of our relationship with our biological parents, we can take comfort in the fact that we are his children. 1 John 4:16 “So we have come to know and to believe the love God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love, abides in God, and God abides in him. God loved us first, even before we were born, and the proof is the life of our Savior Jesus Christ, who came to free us from the bondage of sin, though we are sinners Christ sacrificed his life on the cross for us. There is no greater love than this.”

Romans 8:38-39 “For I am sure neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life”.

Psalms 136:16 we read that we should “Give thanks to God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.” As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our beloved Lord and Savior, let us not be caught up with the things of the world but rather focus on the true reason for this season. I pray that this Christmas will bring you and your family much joy and happiness and the love of God that passeth all human understanding will be with you and your family. May the Lord bless you and keep you, may he turn his face towards you and grant you peace. God bless.

By Padmini Govender



Time is coming to an end as we conclude our 5 Days Till Christmas. You still have time to make someone's Christmas Special this year.

This is a festive initiative where each of us has the opportunity to make someone's Christmas Special . YouthCross Experience Magazine invites you to be part of our 5 Days Till Christmas Festive Cheer. Spread some love around from the 20th – 24th December by choosing a way you would like to do something for someone from the list provided on the next page.

Share it with us if you are doing the "Talent Display" and caption it on our facebook page as #YCE #5daystillchristmas #CelebratingJesus or whatsapp your videos or pictures to us.

5 Days till Christmas 2022

YOU Can
Spread the Festive Cheer by

RANDOM ACTS

Each of the 5 days make someone's day by doing a random act of kindness remembering the love of Christ.



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5 Days till Christmas 2022

YOU Can
Spread the Festive Cheer by

ONE-A-DAY

Pick 5 people you want to do something special for and each of the 5 days do your best to show the one you picked how special they are.

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5 Days till Christmas 2022

YOU Can
Spread the Festive Cheer by

Note of Gratitude

For each of the 5 days write a note of gratitude thanking those around you who have impacted your life. Let them know you are grateful by making each message as personal as possible, even a video message will be great.



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5 Days till Christmas 2022

YOU Can
Spread the Festive Cheer by

Talent Display

Each day for the 5 days leading to Christmas showcase your talent and spread some cheer. If your talent is singing then sing a carol and if dancing then dance to one. No matter what your talent it, use it to spread some cheer



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God's Gift: J E S U S

Have you ever pondered on the reason for Christ's birth? I mean really got down to it apart from giving us salvation, defeating the enemy, and saving the lost?

The most precious gift God has given us through Christ is, saving us for reconciliation with the Father. That's how important reconciliation is to the Father's heart that HE even sacrificed his only begotten son so that we may have life and life in abundance reconciled with HIM.

God doesn't require us to be reconciled to HIM alone, but reconciliation of families and friends is vital.

The saying charity begins at home is not just a saying but is biblical, **"But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever"** (1 Timothy 5:8).

That's right God wants us to start right in our own homes, remember we do not choose family God does and when we turn our backs to one another we are, hurting God - no worse, insulting HIM.

We all get caught up with Christmas, the bright lights, parties, overflowing cupboards, shopping like there is no tomorrow but forget the true basic essence of the season. The whole reason for the season is CHRIST, HIS Birth, and the need for Him being sent to us.

What is the sense of it all when we haven't reconciled with our loved ones, when we distance ourselves or turn a blind eye to the

ones that need an extra hand, a little extra time, love, and patience.

Ephesians 4:2-3 "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

Colossians 3:13 "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

Yes, the hurt may cut like a knife, you may be feeling betrayed, wounded even embarrassed in some cases by what our loved ones may or may not have done but you know what, those are not yours to carry. Hand them over and allow the Lord God Almighty Jesus to bring you to reconciliation with HIM with the FATHER and with your loved ones. After all tis' the season to be jolly, to have peace, love, joy, and happiness.

In **Psalms 133:1** God's word says **"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"** In **1 John 4:20** we see **"Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen."**

Are these not clear enough indications of what pleases the FATHER'S heart and should that not be our key motive not just this Christmas but always? Should we not honour HIM in this?

God's Gift: J E S U S

Continued ...

I have heard so often that family is not necessary blood as much as I agree that sometimes we can be closer to a friend than family it can never change the fact that friends can never take the place of family. You see friends we choose; family is chosen and is connected in way that can never be reversed, removed, or replaced no matter what anyone could say or do.

Proverbs 17:17 "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity." This means that a friend would always love for sure but a brother, a brother is there when you need him. In times of an unpleasant situation or great difficulty a brother is the one for times like these. The reality is that this is no easy feat, many may choose to take the easy road and not get their hands dirty and then the others get so hurt when their efforts are in vain or so they think. You see we are called to be our brother's keeper so let's do our part and let HIM do the rest.

I urge you dear brothers and sisters in Christ let us be the bigger ones, let us have change start with us, let us choose to honour GOD with our reconciliation to one another this Christmas. Let us start at the very onset and not when it is too late.

Much, blessings of love, peace, joy, laughter, happiness, and harmony be yours this Christmas and always in Jesus's name.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our home to yours

Pastor Selena & Kevin Munien



The Gift of Christmas

The greatest gift of Christmas is the gift of Jesus Christ. The birth of Jesus Christ represents the amazing opportunity for all of humanity to be reconciled with God. However it's ironic to think that the Christmas story somehow gets lost in the celebration of Christmas. Among the hustle and bustle, our focus is lost and priorities are misaligned. Essentially, this time of the year has become all about presents and receiving.

The reality to celebrate Christmas is to celebrate the birth of Jesus ... this is its true meaning. It's a time to remember the miraculous event, the very first Christmas that took place in a tiny town called Bethlehem.

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

The word “Christmas” is actually a combination of two words “Christ”, a title given to Jesus, and “mass” that means celebration. Christmas is therefore more important than Santa Claus, gifts, light bulbs, and decorations. Herein lies the one of the core messages of Christmas, it's a message of hope for all of us, a message of peace, and the hope of eternal life. It is this hope that fills us with joy. This is the reason we celebrate Jesus during Christmas. We are thankful to God for His amazing love.

As we celebrate Christmas again this year, if all you see is the babe of Bethlehem, then you've missed out because Jesus is not just a Son in a Manger, but He is the Savior of Mankind!



By Jason D



CAKES
BROWNIES
CUPCAKES
FRUIT/CHRISTMAS CAKES
SNOWBALLS
SCONES



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We would like to thank you for being part of this magazine and for your contribution in every way throughout this year. It is you ... the reader and writer who makes it possible for us to continue spreading the Gospel to everyone. We do appreciate you.

On behalf of YouthCross Experience Magazine, we would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. May 2023 be filled with the joy and favour of our Lord Jesus.

Be Blessed!

YouthCross Experience

Thank you to our Team who has contributed towards making
YOUTHCROSS EXPERIENCE a **SUCCESS**.

Our team:

- Britney Jenine
- Padmini Govender
- Selena Munien
- Jason D

If you would like to be part of this magazine, don't hesitate to write to us.

We will inform you about our requirements.

This is a good opportunity to impact someone's life!

Invite us on whatsapp and let us know what topics you would love to read about. This is also a great way to directly receive our latest Issues .

You can email:

support@youthcrosseperience.co.za

Or

Whatsapp: 064 280 9345

Next Issue:
January/February/March 2023

*Britney
Jenine*

Editor-In-Chief

Owned by God
Redeemed by Christ
Sealed with the Holy Spirit

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