



THIS CHRISTMAS:
FOR THE KING'S BIRTHDAY..

"A Gift of Service"





INTRODUCTION

***E**verywhere we turn we are reminded that Christmas is around the corner. While some people love the holidays; others, if they were honest, would say they dread all the extra demands on their time to the extent that the holidays become a hassle.*

*Many years ago I discovered a secret that helps me escape not **from** the holiday hassle but helps me escape **in** the holiday hassle. In this Christmas eBook, I would like to share with you a simple secret of Christmas that I have used to greatly enrich my holiday celebration. I pray that God would use this secret to help you overcome the holiday hassle in your life...*

Every year I make a Christmas gift list. Do you make one too? This is my suggestion. When you make your list, would you put the King, Jesus, at the top? Have you ever thought about what you might give the King for His birthday? What do you give somebody who has everything? Would you take the next few days to pray and ask the King, "...what would You like for Your birthday?" He will bring something to your mind. It can be action...it can be an area of service...it can be an attitude...it can be a habit...it can be a relationship...it can be something He wants you to say...something He wants you to do...a place He wants you to go... In some way as I shop, bake, wrap, and do all the things that are part of Christmas, thinking of what I will give the King, then asking Him and following through to give it, enhances my joy.

*Since we are already in December, I am going to give you a gift suggestion. Something that I know the King wants for His birthday... a **service of the soul**. It is service that you render to the King out of your love for Him as an expression of your worship to Him. It's service He taught by His own example.*


Join me as together we prepare for the Christmas season.

Many Blessings,

**Anne's message, "FOR THE KING'S BIRTHDAY: A GIFT OF SERVICE",
was recorded on November 11, 1993 in Raleigh, North Carolina.



PART ONE: SERVICE OFFERED LOVINGLY

LISTEN  [Click here](#) to Listen (6:45 minutes)

READ AND REFLECT - JOHN 13:1

What phrase from verse 1 indicates Jesus knew that He would be arrested and crucified within a few hours of this dinner scene?

Knowing what was facing Him shortly, what could have been His mental and emotional state?

What excuse do you have for not offering service with a loving attitude?

Describe in your own words the “full extent of his love” referred to in verse 1. Relate this to John 15:13, as well as to the dinner scene that follows in John 13:1-11.


To what extent do you love Jesus? Are there any limitations to your love that are acceptable to Him? See Romans 12:1-2 for your answer.

What boundaries have you placed on your love for others?

From the following verses, summarize how important it is, in His eyes, for you to love others: Matthew 22:37, 39; Mark 12:33; John 13:34-35, 15:12, 17; John 17:11, 26; Luke 6:32, 35; Galatians 5:13; 1 John 4:7-12.



PART TWO: SERVICE OFFERED WILLINGLY

LISTEN  [Click here](#) to Listen (6:11 minutes)

READ AND REFLECT - JOHN 13:2-3

What phrase indicates that He had a right to expect to be served?

What simple act of service have you refrained from doing because you expect to be served?


Was this a convenient time for Him to serve? Explain.

Did everyone at the table appreciate His service? Give a verse or phrase to support your answer.

What service have you refused to offer because it's not a convenient time, it's not your job, and no one appreciates it anyway? Compare your refusal to His willingness.



PART THREE: SERVICE OFFERED HUMBLY

LISTEN  [Click here](#) to Listen (3:24 minutes)

READ AND REFLECT - JOHN 13:4-11

From Luke 22:24-27, what was the subject of conversation among the disciples just prior to the service Jesus performed?

In this passage, what was the service that Jesus rendered?

Was this particular service His responsibility?

Was Jesus asked to serve?

Have you refrained from service because no one has asked you?

Describe the job He did: Was it glamorous? prestigious? desirable?

What service are you too proud to do?

What service are you too proud to receive?

How would you have spent your time the night before execution?



PART FOUR: SERVICE OFFERED OBEDIENTLY

LISTEN  [Click here](#) to Listen (7:49 minutes)

READ AND REFLECT - JOHN 13:12-16

What are two reasons Jesus gives for your service?

Give other reasons for service from 1 Corinthians 6:20; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; Hebrews 13:15-16, Ephesians 6:7; 1 Timothy 6:2; 1 Peter 4:10; Revelation 1:6.

How does your obedient service reflect His? See Philippians 2:5-8.



PART FIVE: SERVICE OFFERED GLADLY

LISTEN  [Click here](#) to Listen (2:38 minutes)

READ AND REFLECT - JOHN 13:17

What does Jesus say will be the result of your loving, willing, humble, obedient service to Him, from verse 17? from John 12:26? from 2 Corinthians 4:1, 7, 16-18?



PART SIX: MAKE THE DECISION

LISTEN  [Click here](#) to Listen (5:37 minutes)

***M**y challenge to you -- make the decision to offer the King what He wants for His birthday : a service of the soul. Service that flows out of your heart of love for Him as an expression of your worship to Him...service that reflects His heart...service that reflects His hands.*




MY GIFT *for* THE KING:





PART SEVEN: SERVICE THAT REFLECTS HIS FACE

LISTEN  [Click here](#) to Listen (8:55 minutes)

READ AND REFLECT - REVELATION 4:6-11

(Click [here](#) to learn how to study your Bible using Anne's 3 Question Method)

1. What Does God's Word Say? List the facts	2. What Does God's Word Mean? Learn the lessons	3. What Does God's Word Mean To Me? Listen to His voice
What Will I Do To Live It Out?		

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