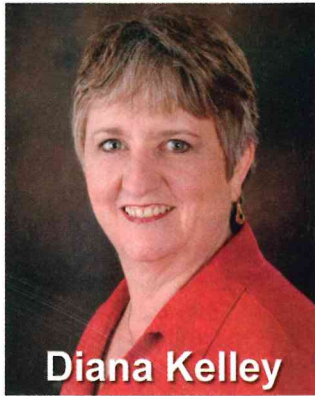


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Can You See What I See?



those gifts given by the Most High. Have you left yours unopened or discarded them over the years? He is waiting for us to reopen our gifts and use them. The Spirit of God is at work within you. Embrace the gifts that God has given you.

I cherish the memories of the Christmases driving to my Grandparents farm with anticipation of the gifts

When our family moved to a new community we were saddened to think of the traditions we would be leaving behind. One of those traditions was the Tour of Lights during the Christmas Season. We went to a park at night, turned off our lights and drove through the twisting path of lit up and decorated holiday displays listening to Christmas music.

Our children were excited to see our new community also had a tour of lights. We saw the usual Rudolph, snowmen, tractors and trains adorned with the glitz of the holidays.

This year there was a silence of the night as we came upon a scene connecting the true Gift of the season with our commercialized present. There before us was a message so simple yet it seemed to capture and encircle the true essence of the season. The plump jolly ol' fella was surrounded by a glow in the night as he was kneeling in the dimly lit snow, resting his thoughts and giving thanks to a Child in a manger. The one that has it all took time during his busiest time of the year to thank God for all he had; appreciating the true meaning of the season.

The reason people remember Santa is because he utilizes the gifts he was given. He embraces his gifts: the gift to give and spreading good cheer.

God has given every one of us amazing gifts! Many have forgotten

Santa would bring my brother, sister and me..... dolls, Barbies, Tinkertoys, Legos, and GI Joe. Now as a parent the joy comes from the reaction the children have after opening their gifts. Imagine the delight God would have seeing you opening the gifts He so divinely chose for you!

The most spectacular event of the year is almost among us. Some will try to mask it with fandangled decorations, and sugarcoat it with creative words. Disguise as they may, many parts of the world will pause in celebration of the Gift of Jesus Christ. Others will say that Christmas just isn't the same anymore; there just isn't as much meaning. "It" has become so commercialized.

Tradition says there was a night that came not so long ago in which three men fell to their knees giving the gifts of the finest to Thee; honoring the birth of our LORD.

This year wrap up the true traditions of childhood, the Gift of the season and share with others. Those old traditions that many remember from their own childhood will keep the true Spirit of Christmas alive. He is the Gift of our lifetime.

Have a Merry Christmas!

Missy Ohe

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