

## Giving Christmas to my child

By Kate Ward

*During the Christmas season, being a parent can be overwhelming. Just trying to make wonderful Christmas memories for your kids can leave you tired, resentful, and empty. In Matthew 6:34, Jesus shares these words to a crowd. "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.*

*Each day has enough trouble of its own." What a wonderful season to heed Jesus's words and just take it one day at a time!*



*I find that being present during the holidays takes a lot of deliberate energy. There is so much to do and so much to experience that the important stuff seems to get lost in the effort.*

*This month I am praying and seeking to take one day at a time and live each day well. In ten years, your kids won't remember the hot toy that they got, but they will remember the time you spent with them. They won't remember the number of gifts in their stocking, but they will remember the lessons you taught them about the true meaning of Christmas, Jesus's birth. They might not be able to recite the Christmas movie they watched, but they will remember your kind words and generosity to a stranger.*

*Kids grow up so fast, and at every stage there is always something new to worry about. One day it is sleeping through the night, the next it's toilet training, and then soon it is driving and dating. There is no way I can handle thinking about the next 18 years, but with God's strength I can be a wise and loving parent today!*

*The secret to living this way is found in the Bible verse right before this verse. It says, "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Matthew 6:33). If we take it one day at a time, God can help us stay focused on the things that matter eternally and this is how we can live each day to its fullest.*