



The
Gift of
Jesus

MEDITATIONS *FOR* CHRISTMAS



CHARLES F. STANLEY

A PDF COMPANION TO THE AUDIOBOOK

The Gift of Jesus

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How did the person react to your sacrifices? How did the way they responded make you feel?

Compare your experience to what Jesus left behind to come to earth. Spend some time thanking Him for each thing you can think of that He gave up or had to face for you.



CHAPTER TWO

JESUS: GOD IN THE FLESH

A Moment of Reflection

Look up and write out what we learn about Jesus in the following verses:

Hebrews 1:1–3:

Colossians 1:15–20:



How does understanding who Jesus is impact what you are facing today? Is there anything He cannot handle?

Spend time praising God for who He is.



In the story of Christmas, we see that nothing on earth can prevent God from carrying out His plans. Daniel 2:21 affirms, “He controls the course of world events; he removes kings and sets up other kings” (NLT). With this in mind, read Romans 8:38–39 and write your thoughts about the verses below.

Perhaps you noticed that all of the obstacles listed in Romans 8:38–39 are far beyond your ability to manage. However, they are all well within God’s control. And if nothing can separate you from His love, then there is no creature, force, or circumstance in all creation that can hinder His plans for you. So spend some time praising Him for this fact today.



Consider all the ways God has blessed you and provided for you in the past. Write your praises to Him below.

Are there areas of your life where you are falling short of God's best for you? Is there anything you need to confess? Use the lines below to repent of your sins and agree to seek God's ways instead of your own.



CHAPTER FIVE

THE CALL OF THE FAVORED

A Moment of Reflection

Has God ever called you to serve Him? If so, what did He ask you to do? Write your answer below. If God has never assigned you something to do, meditate on Ephesians 2:10 and ask what good works He has prepared for you to walk in.



Are you willing for the Lord to work through you in a powerful way? Romans 12:1 says, “I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.” When we serve the Lord wholeheartedly, it is an act of worship because we are acknowledging who He is. Therefore, if you are willing to do whatever He may ask, present yourself to Him in prayer, offering yourself fully.



CHAPTER SEVEN

GOD WITH US

A Moment of Reflection

What are the areas of life where you find it hardest to believe that God is with you? Write them below.



Pray and ask God how He desires to minister to you in the situations above. As He communicates with you, write what He says below.

In 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Paul instructed, “In everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” Even if the Lord has not revealed His ministry to you in the areas above, give Him thanks. Express your trust that even if you do not see His hand or His purposes in the situations you’re experiencing, you know that He is with you and would never abandon you.



CHAPTER EIGHT

GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY

A Moment of Reflection

Do you ever identify with the shepherds—feeling unworthy, unclean, or unlovable? If so, that is not God’s will for you. In Jeremiah 31:3, He says, “I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness.” With this truth in mind, ask God to help you understand how He truly cares for and values you.



The journey to understanding your worth is never short or easy. It is a lifetime endeavor in which you learn to see yourself as God does. And the main way you do so is by spending time with Him in Scripture. Therefore, read each of the following verses and ask God to give you a true and profound understanding of what they really mean. Write down what He reveals to you.

Psalm 139:1–4:

Psalm 139:13–14:



Psalm 139:16:

Psalm 139:23–24:



CHAPTER NINE

FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

A Moment of Reflection

Think about a time in your life when you went through a challenge, but God used it for good. Write about it below.

How did God change your situation? Praise Him for all the ways He redeemed it and for the blessings that came from it.



Are there any circumstances in your life right now that appear too difficult to turn for good? Give that situation to God and spend time praising Him for all the ways He has helped you in the past.



CHAPTER TEN

THE LAMB OF GOD

A Moment of Reflection

At times, people envision the Lord as an overbearing taskmaster because of the sacrifices He demanded in the Old Testament. Yet He required those offerings to show how we could not save ourselves. When Jesus came as the Lamb of God, we saw a very different side to the Lord—we understood that Christ was the ultimate offering God required to take away *all* our sin forever. Have you ever accepted Jesus' loving sacrifice for you? If yes, write your testimony below. If no, but you want to, write out a simple prayer asking Jesus to be your Savior.



Jesus is the only way to know the Father. And the awesome thing about the salvation He offers is that all He requires of us is to believe in Him. Romans 10:9 tells us how to show that we trust in Jesus for salvation: “If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” Therefore, as soon as possible, call someone who you know is a Christian and tell them that Jesus is your Lord and that you believe that even though Jesus died on the cross, He rose from the grave in order to forgive you of your sins. Write down who you called and the date below.



CHAPTER ELEVEN

A TURNING POINT

A Moment of Reflection

Is there anything Jesus taught that is difficult for you to obey?
Write it below.



What is keeping you from obeying Christ wholeheartedly? Ask God to show you the root of what is standing in the way of following Him completely and seeing the kingdom of heaven lived out through you.



CHAPTER TWELVE

BEYOND SAVIOR

A Moment of Reflection

Consider the names of Christ.

Advocate

Alpha and Omega

*Author and Perfector of our
faith*

Bread of Life

Bridegroom

Bright Morning Star

Deliverer

Everlasting Father

Faithful and True

Good Shepherd

Great Physician

Immanuel

King of kings and Lord of lords

Lamb of God

Lion of Judah

Mediator

Messiah

Mighty God

Prince of Peace

Redeemer

Righteous Judge

Rose of Sharon

Savior

Son of God

Son of Man

Suffering Servant

Teacher

*The Way, the Truth,
and the Life*

Wonderful Counselor

Word of God



Those are just a few of the names Christ is called in Scripture. What names of Jesus are most meaningful to you? List them below and describe why they are so significant.

Spend time asking Jesus to know Him by the names that are not so familiar to you and praise Him for who He is.



CHAPTER THIRTEEN

THE GIFT-MAKER

A Moment of Reflection

Have you ever had your spiritual gifts assessed? Do you know what your special talents and abilities are? Write them below as well as the strengths God has given you.



Have you ever asked God to make you a gift and blessing to others? Spend time today asking Him to open your eyes to the opportunities for service He has for you.

Look back at your initial list of gifts, talents, and strengths. Are there any the Lord highlighted during your prayer time? If so, offer them to Him for His use.



CHAPTER FOURTEEN

WORSHIP THE RETURNING KING

A Moment of Reflection

Write out Revelation 16:15:

If Jesus were to come back today, what aspects of your life would you wish were different before Him? How do you want to change your life before He returns?



Spend time asking God to help you live a life that is pleasing to Him. As He shows you what to do, agree with Him in prayer.

Spend time worshiping Jesus as your returning and conquering King!


