Topical December 20-21, 2008

#### "THE INDESCRIBABLE GIFT"

"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" 2 Corinthians 9:15 (New International Version)

# • GOD'S GIFT IS PERSONAL.

O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. <sup>2</sup>You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. <sup>3</sup>You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Psalm 139:1-3 (NIV)

"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—. . ." John 10:14 (NIV)

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14 (NIV)

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, . . ." John 3:16a (NIV)

### • GOD'S GIFT IS PRACTICAL.

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 (NIV)

o God's practical gift to us is forgiveness.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Matthew 5:8 (NIV)

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Psalm 51:10 (NIV)

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35 (NIV)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22-23a

#### • GOD'S GIFT IS PERMANENT.

"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 (NIV)

"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life." John 5:24 (NIV)

"I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand." John 10:28-29 (NIV)

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. <sup>21</sup>Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, <sup>22</sup>set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. 2 Corinthians 1:20-22 (NIV)

## GOD'S GIFT IS <u>PURCHASED</u>.

He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:2 (NIV)

o To believe means to commit or to rely and depend upon.

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— John 1:12 (NIV)

### GOD'S GIFT IS <u>RECEIVED</u>.

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8 (NIV)