

CHRISTMAS MISTAKE



Each Christmas, I vowed to make Christmas a calm and peaceful experience. I had cut back on nonessentials obligations—extensive card writing, endless baking, decorating, and even overspending. Yet still, I found myself exhausted, unable to appreciate the precious family moments, and of course, the true meaning of Christmas. My son, Nicholas was in Kindergarten that year. It was an exciting season for a six year old. For weeks, he's been memorizing songs for his school's "Winter Pageant".

I didn't have the heart to tell him that I would be working the night of the production. Unwilling to miss his shining moment, I spoke with his teacher. She assured me there'd be a dress rehearsal, I filed in ten minutes early, found a spot on the cafeteria floor and sat down. Around the room, I saw several other parents quietly scampering to their seats. As I waited, the students were led into the room. Each class, accompanied by their teacher, sat cross-legged on the floor. Then, each group, one by one, rose to perform their song. Because the public school system had long stopped referring to the holiday as "Christmas" I didn't expect anything other than fun, commercial entertainment— songs of reindeer, Santa Claus, snowflakes and good cheer! So, when my son's class rose to sing, "Christmas Love" I was slightly taken aback by its bold title. Nicholas was aglow, as were all of his classmates, adorned in fuzzy mittens, red sweaters, and bright snowcaps upon their heads. Those in the front row—center stage—held up large letters, one by one, to spell out the title of the song.

As the class would sing "C" is for "Christmas" a child would hold up the letter "C". Then, "H is for Happy, and on and on, until each child holding up his portion had presented the complete message, "Christmas Love"

The performance was going smoothly, until suddenly, we noticed her: a small, quiet, girl in the front row holding the letter "M" upside down—totally unaware her letter "M" appeared as a "W".

The audience of 1st through 6th graders snickered at this little one's mistake. But she had no idea they were laughing at her, so she stood tall, proudly holding her "W". Although many teachers tried to shush the children, the laughter continued until the last letter was raised, and we all saw it together. A hush came over the audience and eyes began to widen. In that instant, we understood—the reason we were there, why we celebrated the holiday in the first place, why even in the chaos, there was a purpose for our festivities.

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For when the last letter was held high, the message read LOUD AND CLEAR:

“CHRIST WAS LOVE!”

1 John 4:8 says that “GOD IS LOVE!”

“Herein is LOVE, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins!”

1John 4:10

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

3:16

“For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world THROUGH HIM might be SAVED.” 3:17

John 3:3-8 in the Holy Bible says that every one must be BORN AGAIN. If you are not “born again” would you like to be “born again” today?

Then I urge you to get on your knees and pour out your heart and say something like this:

LORD JESUS CHRIST,
I BELIEVE THAT YOU SHED YOUR PURE, INNOCENT, PRECIOUS, BLOOD ON THE CROSS FOR ME, AND I THANK YOU! I COME TO YOU WITH ALL OF MY HEART AND ASK YOU TO FORGIVE ME FROM ALL OF MY SINS THAT I HAVE EVER COMMITTED OR DONE IN MY HEART.

PLEASE COME INTO MY HEART AND CHANGE IT SO THAT I WILL BE BORN AGAIN BY YOUR HOLY SPIRIT AND I WILL NOW BELONG TO YOU. I SURRENDER THE REST OF MY LIFE TO YOU. I ACCEPT YOU AS MY LOVING SAVIOR AND FATHER TODAY, AND ASK YOU TO LOVE AND GUIDE ME IN ALL THINGS AS I STUDY YOUR HOLY BIBLE, USING THAT AS MY GUIDE ALL MY LIFE.

If you sincerely mean what you have just prayed, Jesus will accept your prayer and you will be born again. And you must do everything you have said in this prayer for the rest of your life, and be assured that Jesus will help you as you keep looking to Him and asking for His help! Congratulations! Now go and tell everyone that you belong to King Jesus, and that you now have a Heavenly Home!



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