



## A Christmas Wish

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During the Christmas Season songs of joy echo from building to building in the city streets. Most of the radio stations play Christmas music. The T.V. is showing Christmas movies. The festive lights in joyous colours are displayed in delightful shapes and symbols. There is excitement in the air. Expectancy rates high on the scale of emotions. We observe people being more generous and thoughtful. Many are thinking of the aged, of the sick, the isolated, whom they hope to bring some cheer.



As families we catch the spirit too as we decorate our homes with lights and evergreen trees. Many remember their childhood and purchase for their children those toys and things that meant a great deal to them when they were children. Others gather the family around the piano or the organ and think of Christmas carols and sing them over and over again. Still others read the Christmas story from the scriptures or other traditional Christmas stories. Indeed there is a song in the air, great tidings of real joy.

However, as we reflect about this particular season, and other seasons prior to this one, we are well aware that many people are caught up in the joy of the occasion that, when the season passes, they also lose their Christmas joy. For them Christmas seems to be composed of series of festive events which soon fade and disappear much like the lights of the train station when we round the bend. The impulse of the new birth in one's heart, all the joy and generosity that we had during the Christmas season is eclipsed by the return to the routine of getting and spending. And that's the reason why some Christians are critical of so many things done only for Christmas. They see it as so pretentious, so shallow, because it never changes us, except for the moment.

This Christmas season I want it to become such an event in my life that it does change me and I become a more understanding father, a more loving husband, a more diligent worker, a truer friend, a more sensitive person to people's needs, and discover a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, my Lord. Could that be your wish too?