

Christmas Joy

Alegría navideña



The First Christmas

La Primera Navidad



God, the great Creator, is a Spirit. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, everywhere and in everything—far beyond our limited human comprehension. So He sent Jesus, in the form of a man, to understand us and show us what He Himself is like and to bring us to Himself.

Dios, el gran Creador, es Espíritu. Es omnipotente, omnisciente y omnipresente. Semejante concepto sería para nosotros demasiado difícil de asimilar. De ahí que para manifestarnos Su amor, acercarnos a Él y llevarnos a comprender Su esencia, dispuso que Su propio Hijo, Jesucristo, tomara forma corporal y bajara a la Tierra.





God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph.

Dios envió al ángel Gabriel a Nazaret, una aldea de Galilea, a una virgen llamada María. Ella estaba comprometida para casarse con un hombre llamado José.





The angel said, "You will become pregnant and give birth to a son. You are to name him Jesus. He will be the Son of the Most High God and will rule forever."

El ángel dijo: "Quedarás embarazada y darás a luz un hijo. Le pondrás por nombre Jesús. El Hijo del Dios Altísimo y reinará por siempre".



When the time was near for Mary to give birth, the Roman government told everyone to go for a census to the town where their ancestors had lived. Joseph and Mary had to make a long journey from where they lived in Nazareth to Bethlehem because their ancestor was David whose hometown was Bethlehem.

Estando cercano el tiempo en que María iba a dar a luz, el gobierno romano ordenó que todo el mundo fuera a censarse al lugar donde sus antecesores habían vivido. María y José tenían que hacer un largo viaje desde donde vivían en Nazaret hasta Belén





When they arrived in Bethlehem, there was no place to stay. The only room they could find was a place where animals stayed. The baby was born there and his mother laid him in a feeding trough, since they did not have a bed for him. They named him Jesus.

Cuando llegaron a Belén, no había lugar donde quedarse. La única estancia que pudieron encontrar fue un lugar donde los animales dormían. El bebé nació allí y su madre le acostó en un pesebre, pues no tenían una cama para él. Le pusieron por nombre Jesús.





That night, there were some shepherds in a nearby field guarding their flocks. Suddenly, a shining angel appeared to them, and they were terrified. The angel said, "Do not be afraid, because I have some good news for you. The Messiah has been born in Bethlehem! You will find him wrapped in pieces of cloth and lying in a feeding trough."

Esa noche había unos cuantos pastores en los campos cercanos cuidando sus rebaños. De repente, un ángel brillante se les apareció, y quedaron aterrorizados. El ángel dijo: "No tengáis miedo, porque tengo buenas noticias para vosotros. ¡El Mesías, el Maestro, ha nacido en Belén! Le encontraréis envuelto en pañales y acostado en un pesebre."





The shepherds soon arrived at the place where Jesus was and they found him lying in a feeding trough, just as the angel had told them. They were very excited. Mary was very happy, too.

Los pastores llegaron pronto al lugar donde estaba Jesús y le encontraron acostado en un pesebre, tal como el ángel les había dicho. Estaban muy emocionados. María también estaba muy feliz.

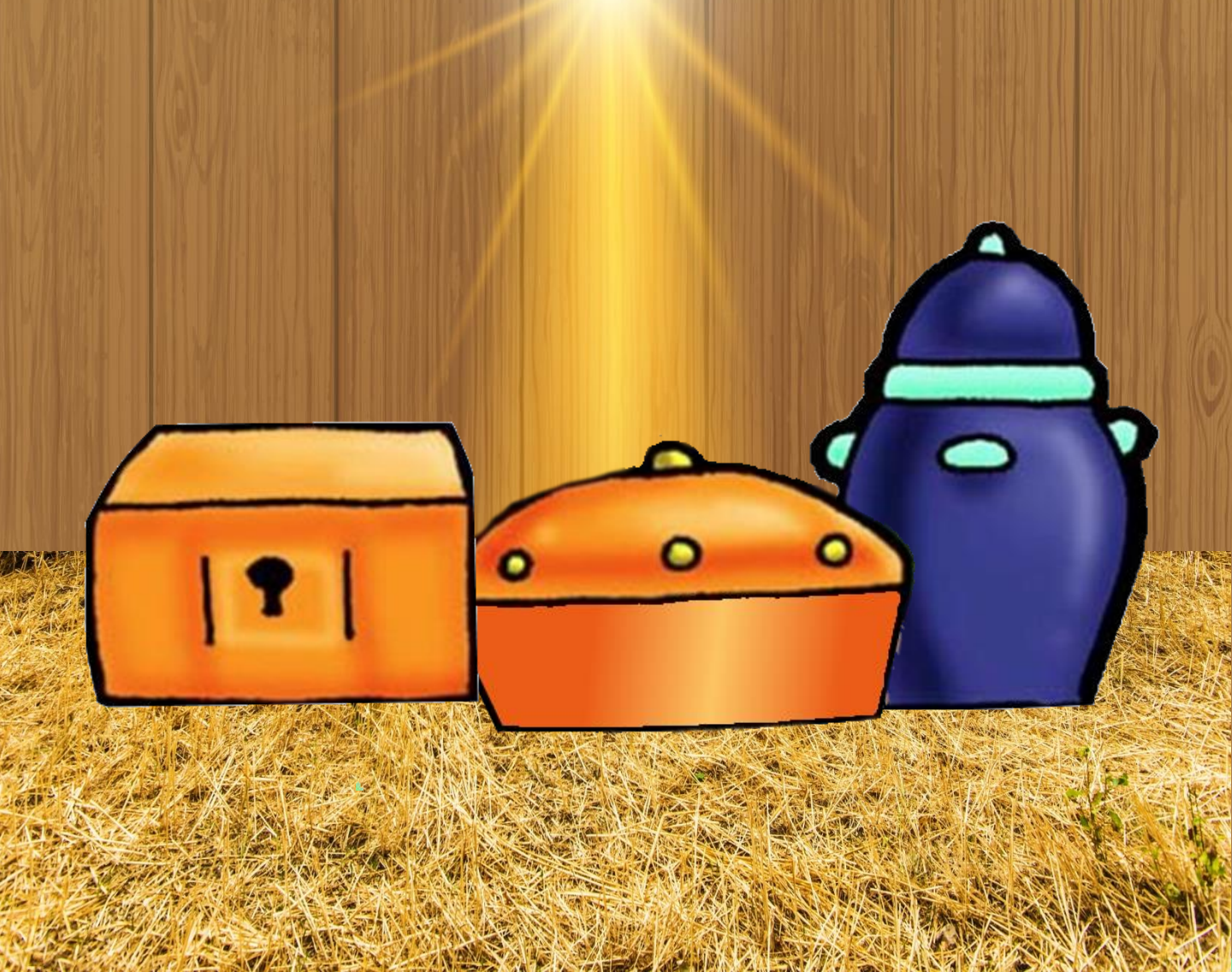




Sometime later, wise men from countries far to the east saw an unusual star in the sky. They realized it meant a new king had been born. So, they came to Bethlehem and found the house where Jesus and his parents were staying.

Un tiempo más tarde, unos sabios de países lejanos del este vieron una estrella extraordinaria en el cielo. Se dieron cuenta de que eso significaba que había nacido un nuevo rey. Así que viajaron a Belén y encontraron la casa donde Jesús y sus padres se estaban quedando.





When the wise men saw Jesus with his mother, they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Los sabios entraron en la casa y vieron al niño con su madre, María, y se inclinaron y lo adoraron. Luego abrieron sus cofres de tesoro y le dieron regalos de oro, incienso y mirra.



Where Jesus was Born

Una leyenda olvidada



There's a beautiful legend that's never been told,
It may have been known to the wise men of old,
How three little children came early at dawn,
With hearts that were sad, to where Jesus was born.

*Llegó a mis oídos la leyenda olvidada
que quizá conocían los sabios de Oriente
sobre tres chiquillos que fueron al alba
a ver a Jesús con rostros dolientes.*





One could not see, one was too lame to play,
While the other, a mute, not a word could he say.
Yet led by His star, they came there to peep
At the little Lord Jesus, with eyes closed in sleep.

*El uno era ciego; el otro, tullido; y el tercero, mudo;
no obstante, una estrella
los condujo al lugar donde había nacido
pocas horas antes la Criatura aquella.*





But how could the Christ Child, so lovely and fair,
Not waken and smile when He heard the glad prayer
Of hope at His coming, of faith at His birth,
Of praise at His bringing God's peace to the earth?

*¿Cómo iba el Niño a mostrarse desatento
y no responder con sonrisa sincera
al oír la plegaria de fe en su nacimiento
y de alabanza por traer paz a la Tierra?*





And then as the light softly came through the door,
The lad that was lame stood upright once more;
The child that was mute started sweetly to sing,
While the boy that was blind looked with joy on the King!

*Suavemente una luz iluminó el establo.
El chiquillo impedido se puso de pie;
la muda cantó, despegando los labios;
¡y el ciego contempló dichoso a su Rey!*



What Can I Give Him?

¿Qué puedo darle?



What can I give Him, as small as I am?

¿Qué puedo darle, pues pequeño soy?





If I were a shepherd, I'd give him a lamb.

Quizás un cordero, si fuera yo pastor.





If I were a wise man, I'd do my part.

Si fuese un rey mago, oro daría yo.





I know what I'll give Him; I'll give Him my heart.

Ya sé qué daré: Le doy mi corazón.



Jesus' Christmas Wish List

¿Qué me darás de regalo?



Since it's Jesus' birthday, it makes sense that we would want to give Him something special, like we often give gifts to our loved ones or do something special for them on their birthdays. But what do you give to the King of the universe, the One who has everything? I was mulling over that question when it occurred to me that we could simply ask Him what He would like most from us. Here are six of His answers:

Siendo el cumpleaños de Jesús, es lógico que pensemos en algo lindo que regalarle, de la misma manera que hacemos obsequios a nuestros seres queridos o preparamos algo especial para ellos el día de su cumpleaños. Lo que pasa es que a veces resulta difícil saber qué darle al Rey del universo, que ya lo tiene todo. Justamente me encontraba dándole vueltas a ese pensamiento cuando se me ocurrió que la forma más fácil de dar con la solución era preguntarle directamente a Él qué sería lo que más le gustaría que le regalásemos. A continuación reproduzco seis de Sus respuestas:





The Gift of Love

At this special time when everyone likes to get together with those who mean the most to them, I want to get together with you.

It doesn't have to be a big, elaborate thing. We can do whatever you'd like, just so long as we're together, you and I. We can sit and chat, or we can read something meaningful together. Or we can tell each other what we love and appreciate about each other. These are some ideas of ways you can show that you love Me and haven't forgotten whose birthday it is.

Regálame amor

Durante la Navidad, cuando todos los amigos se reúnen con sus seres queridos, familiares y amigos, Yo quiero reunirme contigo.

No tiene que ser nada complicado Puedo hacer lo que te apetezca, siempre y cuando estemos los dos juntos. Podemos sentarnos a conversar. O leer algo juntos y hacer una pausa para reflexionar sobre ello. Podemos decir las cosas que nos gustan y que valoramos el uno del otro. Con detalles así puedes manifestarme que me amas y que no tengo ha olvidado quién es el homenajeado.





The Gift of Giving

Christmas is a time of giving. It's when My Father gave His only begotten Son, Me, to the world. It's when I came to earth that I might lay down My life in order to give eternal life to all who would receive it. It's when people give gifts to others in commemoration of the gifts that My Father and I gave them.

This Christmas, I ask you to give Me the gift of giving. Give to others, as you would give to Me. Return My Father's goodwill by sharing some of your own.

Regálame tu generosidad

La Navidad es época de dar. Fue cuando Mi padre me entregó a Mí, Su hijo unigénito, por amor al mundo. Fue cuando vine a la Tierra y ofrecí mi vida para dar vida eterna a todos los que aceptaron. Es la época en la que las personas intercambian regalos para conmemorar los regalos que Mi Padre y Yo les ofrecemos.

Haz una pausa para preguntarme qué puedes hacer por algún ser humano. Corresponde a la buena voluntad de Mi Padre demostrando tú también tu buena voluntad.





The Gift of a Thankful Heart

It brings Me joy to hear your thankful praises. Whenever something happens that makes you happy or makes you feel loved, thank Me for that gift. Then it will be a personal gift exchange between you and Me. I give you blessings to make you happy, and you make Me happy by giving Me thanks. As you continue to thank Me for everything, I'll give you more and every day will be like Christmas.

Regálame tu corazón agradecido

Me hace feliz escuchar tus alabanzas y expresiones de gratitud. Cuando pase algo que te haga feliz o que demuestre que otras personas te aprecian y te aman, alábame por ese regalo. Así los dos intercambiaremos regalos. Soy Yo quien te admite esos favores que te brindan felicidad; y al agradecerme los, tú también me brindas a Mí felicidad. Sigue dándome las gracias por todo lo que obsequie, y Yo seré cada vez más generoso contigo, tanto que cada día será como Navidad.





The Gift of Prayer

Put your love into action by praying for others, and I will more than repay. If you don't know where to start, don't worry; I see your heart. If you don't feel eloquent, don't worry; I see your heart. It's your love and concern that moves My hand to meet the needs of those you pray for.

Regálame tus oraciones

Traduce tu amor en hechos, orando por otras personas. Te lo retribuiré con creces.

Si no te has considerado elocuente, no te preocupes: Yo miro tu corazón. Si sientes que no tienes mucha fe, no te preocupes: Yo miro tu corazón. Lo que me impulsa a satisfacer las necesidades de las personas por las que oras son tu amor y tu interés genuino.





The Gift of Forgiveness

Christmas is a wonderful time of year to make things right. And making things right often starts with you taking the step to forgive someone, even if you feel that the other person is the one who should be seeking forgiveness. Has someone said or done something that has hurt you? Forgive.

Regálame perdón

La Navidad es una buena fecha para reconciliarse. Y a menudo hay que hacer el esfuerzo de perdonar a alguien, aunque te parezca que esa persona debería pedirte perdón a ti. ¿Alguien dijo o hizo algo que te hirió? Perdona.





The Gift of Sharing My Love

It has been rightly said that I have no hands but your hands, no feet but your feet, no eyes but your eyes, and no mouth but yours. If you want to give Me a truly wonderful gift this Christmas, lend Me the use of you. Let Me fill you with My love, and then let that love flow through you to others.

Comparte Mi amor con los demás

Se ha dicho que no tengo otras manos, ni otros pies, ni otros ojos que los de Mis seguidores. Si quieres hacer un regalo verdaderamente maravilloso esta Navidad, déjame servir de ti. Permite que te llene de Mi amor y deja que ese amor fluya a través de ti hacia los demás.



The Reason for the Season

Navidad inmortal



Jesus was God's gift to the whole world, and not just for Christmas, but for every day, our whole lives through and beyond, for all eternity. Christmas comes and goes, but Jesus never leaves the heart.

Jesús fue un regalo de Dios para el mundo. No solo nos lo entrega en Navidad, sino todos los días, desde el albor hasta el ocaso de la vida, y toda la eternidad. La Navidad pasa, pero Jesús nunca se irá de tu corazón.





The Christmas story tells us that it's okay to start small. Jesus started as a tiny baby born in a stable, but He ended up at the right hand of the throne of God. And because of Him, our small beginnings will have greater ends in His eternal kingdom.

El nacimiento de Jesús nos recuerda que no importa tener orígenes humildes. Él empezó naciendo en un establo y terminó a la diestra del trono de Dios. Además, gracias a Él nuestros humildes comienzos tendrán un final esplendoroso en Su reino eterno.





Christmas is a state of mind. It's happiness, thankfulness, love, giving. Do those things, and every day can feel like Christmas.

La Navidad es un estado de ánimo. Es felicidad, gratitud, amor, generosidad. Practica todo eso y no te costará estar en la onda navideña cada día del año.





The Christmas heart is a giving heart, a wide-open heart that thinks of others first.

El corazón navideño es un corazón dadivoso, un corazón abierto de par en par que pone primero a los demás.





The angels who sang praises on the night Jesus was born still sing today. Their voices are drowned out some by the noise and busyness of life, but if you take the time to listen carefully, you'll hear them. Join them in singing praises to our heavenly Father.

Los ángeles que entonaron alabanzas a Dios la noche en que nació Jesús siguen haciéndolo hoy en día. El ruido y el ajetreo de la vida ahogan un poco sus voces; pero si prestas atención, las oirás. Únete a ellos.





As you enjoy all the blessings of life this Christmas, stop and think about what meager circumstances Jesus was born into. He had so much, yet became so little. He became nothing so that we could have everything. All that we have, we owe to Him.

Esta Navidad, mientras disfrutas de todas las dichas y bondades de esta vida, detente a pensar en las circunstancias tan precarias en que nació Jesús. Habiendo tenido tanto se hizo tan pequeño. Se hizo nada para que nosotros pudiéramos tenerlo todo. Se lo debemos todo a Él.



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