



# **The Perfect Gift**

**A Jesus Cares Christmas Service**

Level B

## ***The Perfect Gift: A Jesus Cares Ministries Christmas Service***

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To God be the glory!

**Overview:** *The Perfect Gift* Level B is a more involved version of *The Perfect Gift* Level A. Level B is good for large classes with many ability levels. A Christmas tree is decorated during the program. Each gift that is opened has many ornaments in it as opposed to one item as in *The Perfect Gift* Level A. This one is especially designed for a large class with many levels of abilities. The Level A version is designed for students who function at a very low level.

During the course of this Christmas service, nine gifts are opened. The contents of these gifts are as follows:

Gift #1: angel ornaments

Gift #2: nativity scene ornaments, including Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus

Gift #3: candy canes

Gift #4: star tree-topper

Gift #5: church ornaments (ornaments that look like churches)

Gift #6: cross ornaments

Gift #7: lily ornaments

Gift #8: crown ornaments

Gift #9: picture of Jesus

The suggested songs are taken from three sources:

*Christian Worship*

*Everyone Sing & Sign*

*Let All the People Praise You*

All three of these books are available from Northwestern Publishing House, [www.nph.net](http://www.nph.net).

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# The Perfect Gift

**Pastor:** Welcome! We are happy that you are joining us this evening as we celebrate the birthday of our Savior, Jesus Christ. At this time of year when we are all excited about Christmas and parties and gifts, we want to share with you what we have learned about the greatest gift of all, our Savior Jesus, the perfect gift.

🎵 **Congregation sings:** “Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes,” stanzas 1 and 2  
(*Christian Worship*, hymn 12)

**Pastor:** The hymn stanza says, “The Savior comes, the Savior promised long.” In the beginning God promised to send a Savior to rescue us from the punishment for our sins. We need this gift because we cannot save ourselves from eternal death in hell. In the Bible, Isaiah wrote in chapter 9 verse 6 about the coming of the Savior. Isaiah said,

**Student:** “To us a Child is born, to us a Son is given.”

**Pastor:** A prophet named Micah told in chapter 5 verse 2 where the Christ would be born. He wrote,

**Student:** “But you, Bethlehem . . . out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel.”

**Pastor:** God announced the coming of the Savior in a special way with a special messenger.

*Student opens box #1: angel ornaments.*

**Student:** Look, angel ornaments. Let’s put them on the tree.

*Students help decorate the tree with angel ornaments.*

**Pastor:** Luke 2 tells us that a long time ago a young woman named Mary lived in a city called Nazareth. One day an angel appeared to her. The angel came to Mary with a special message.

**Student:** You are going to have a baby. The baby’s name will be Jesus.

**Pastor:** In Matthew 1, we read that God also sent an angel to Joseph. Joseph wanted Mary to be his wife. The angel told Joseph that Mary would be the mother of Jesus. The angel said to Joseph,

**Student:** Call his name Jesus.

**Pastor:** For he will save his people from their sins.

*Student opens box #2: Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus.*

**Student:** This box has ornaments of the nativity scene with Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus.

*Students help decorate the tree with nativity scene ornaments.*

**Student:** Here is how the Bible describes the birth of Jesus in Luke 2:1-7:

*Pastor reads Luke 2:1-7.*

🎵 **Students sing:** “Away in a Manger” (*Christian Worship*, hymn 68)

🎵 **Congregation sings:** “Once in Royal David’s City” (*Christian Worship*, hymn 50)

*Student opens box #3: candy canes (to represent shepherds’ staffs).*

**Student:** This is a box of candy canes. They remind us of a shepherd’s staff.

*Students help decorate the tree with candy canes.*

**Student:** The first people to hear about the birth of the Savior were shepherds who were out in the fields watching their sheep. The Bible tells us about it in the book of Luke.

*Pastor reads Luke 2:8-14.*

🎵 **Congregation sings:** “Angels We Have Heard on High,” stanzas 1 and 2 (*Christian Worship*, hymn 63)

*Student opens box-#4: star tree-topper.*

**Student:** This box has one big star for the top of our Christmas tree.

*Student or helper places the star tree-topper on the top of the tree.*

**Pastor:** A star played a very important role in the Christmas story. God used a special star to lead visitors to the new King. Matthew 2:1-12 tells us the story.

*Pastor reads Matthew 2:1-12.*

🎵 **Students sing:** “We Are Wise Men Coming from Afar” (*Everyone Sing & Sign*, Northwestern Publishing House)  
*During the song a number of students can use wood block rhythm instruments to make the sound of camels plodding along.*

*Student opens box #5: church ornaments.*

**Student:** This is a box of little church ornaments. They remind us to hear God’s Word.

*Students help decorate the tree with church ornaments.*

**Pastor:** One of God’s most wonderful gifts to us is his Word, the Bible. In it we hear the good news of Jesus and how he came to earth to save us. We hear God’s Word at home, in church, and here at Jesus Cares Bible class.

**Student:** Here at Jesus Cares we have learned how God wants us to live, how he wants us to treat others, and most of all what Jesus has done for us. The Bible is God’s gift to us.

🎵 **Students sing:** “Thy Word Is a Lamp” (*Let All the People Praise Him*, Northwestern Publishing House)

*Student opens box #6: cross ornaments.*

**Student:** This is a box of cross ornaments. Christmas is not complete without the cross.

*Students help decorate the tree with cross ornaments.*

**Pastor:** Some people at the time of Jesus hated him and did not believe that he was the Savior. They put him to death on a cross. We know that Jesus died to pay for our sins. What a glorious gift!

🎵 **Congregation sings:** "Were You There" (*Christian Worship*, hymn 119)

*Student opens box #7: lily ornaments.*

**Student:** Jesus didn't stay in the grave. He became alive again on Easter morning.

*Students help decorate the tree with lily ornaments.*

**Pastor:** As we celebrate in church Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday, we often see a beautiful lily. It reminds us of the new life we have in Christ.

🎵 **Congregation sings:** "I Know that My Redeemer Lives," stanzas 1, 2, and 8 (*Christian Worship*, hymn 152)

*Student opens box #8: crown ornaments.*

**Student:** This is a box of crowns. Let's put them on the tree too.

*Students help decorate the tree with crown ornaments.*

**Pastor:** We know that Jesus is preparing a place for us in heaven. Someday when we die, Jesus will take us home to heaven. He says to you and me in Revelation 2:10,

**Student:** "Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life."

**Pastor:** The crown of life that Jesus promised us is life with him in heaven, forever and ever! What a wonderful gift! So, the perfect gift is:

*Student opens box #9: picture of Jesus.*

**Student:** Jesus is the perfect gift!

**Pastor:** We hope that this Christmas season you are filled with love and gratitude to our loving God for giving us the perfect gift! Let us close with the singing of one last Christmas hymn.

🎵 **Congregation sings:** "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come," stanzas 1-6,15 (*Christian Worship*, hymn 38)