

My Holiday Gift ... A Prayer of Thanksgiving ...

Father, during this time as I reflect on your birth – I cannot help but note the amazing and best gift ever from you that I unwrap around this season each year – the same gift that takes on a new and fresh meaning yearly - *the gift of the full Trinity*. It is priceless yet available to the rich and the poor alike ... it is the type of gift that reminds us that while there is inequitable wealth in the world, there is perfect equity of wealth in the heaven-lies. It is a gift that my mind can barely comprehend yet it is mine from you. Thank you ...

God

Dear Father, as I celebrate this season of your Son's birth ... I pause to think ... Wow, today I have life ... I am able to breathe! How can I put a price on this? You gave me this life fully designed in your image (Genesis 1). I am born in your image with all that you are so that I can realize the impossible, the unattainable, and the unreachable. Do I really comprehend this? Oh the joy of just being *alive* – I am so privileged to have the breath of life that so many have lost - many including our own loved ones. Does my mind understand the awesomeness of this? I have what many at this very moment are struggling to hold on to because of various health issues. In this context, I am blessed dear God. What else can I ask for? What else can I desire? What else can I require? When this very life is something I have not earned nor even deserve. I have life only by grace and by thy grace alone. I am special. I am fortunate. I am honored. Let me not take all of this for granted. Help me to pause long enough from the busy-ness of life and the festivities to reflect on what this life means to me and to you. I am able to live in a beautiful world that you have created and have given me full dominion over (Genesis 1:28). It is mine to enjoy through taking leadership of it all. I enjoy the sky, the moon, the waters, the flowers, the presence of you that gives me daily peace, joy and love. I have it all and it does not cost me a penny. With this in mind, while I also have the ability to earn and spend – help me to do so in a manner that does not create debt that deprives me of enjoying all that has been given to me at no material cost ... let nothing that I add to my life through monetary means be done in a way that gives me sleepless nights where I can no longer smell a rose or touch its petals that not even Solomon in all his riches cannot match (Matthew 6:2), where I can no longer admire the blue sky or the majestic seas. Oh today I breathe in the simplicity of life ... that is so full of gifts that are there for me ... I just have to accept and open each gift from my Heavenly Father. Please help me to never take this for granted. Thank you dear God.

Son

Dear Jesus, as I celebrate your birth once again, I cannot help but ponder on the following: Do I truly understand what it means not to just be *alive* but *alive with God* as a result of your life and death that restored hope to me? Oh my, not just a life mechanically, biologically or scientifically in existence. I am alive with all that I am and have become and all that I could ever need to be happy, to be fulfilled, to be content, to be loved and to be cared for, to be all that I could ever be

or become as part of my purpose with God? Do I truly value what it means to be alive – and alive *with God in all His fullness*? Through you, I am now made one with the entire Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit (John 14:20). Through this oneness, I am never alone, I am never in need, I am forever loved and cared for ... wow and it is all available to me at no material cost ... I just have to open this gift from you, His blessed Son. Please help me to never take this for granted. Thank you Jesus.

Holy Spirit

Dear Holy Spirit, as I celebrate the true meaning of this season ... I am grateful to you who have made the true meaning of this season so special to me. I am able to enjoy this meaning through a full understanding of all the things God has given to me that can transform my life and the lives of those around me (I Corinthians 2:12-14). Please help me to never take this for granted. Thank you Holy Spirit.

Today, I will pause to reflect on the magnitude of life *and* life with the Holy Trinity given to me through God - the Father, God - the Son and God - the Holy Spirit. It is the type of *life with you* that allows me to take my place on the mountaintop as I keep living and co-creating this universe with you from my place of unique calling and gifting. The world is all mine as it is yours – therefore, I will take dominion over this as you have empowered me to do in Genesis 1:28 – nothing or no one can take this from me. . I will embrace the gift I have as I carefully open it with gratitude. I will meticulously inhale all it adds to my life. Thank you for my holiday gift that remains priceless ... no store can contain its magnitude.

Amen

