

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!

As we get ready for Christmas, let us remind our children of the real meaning of Christmas. Remind them that on this day, a child was born in the city of Bethlehem, "Jesus The Christ." I know as parents, we want to get our kids the newest games, toys, or that special something, but what will we give the real Birthday Boy? How many of us have gone to a birthday party and not bring something for the guest of honor? Well, when we celebrate Christmas, and not give Jesus a gift, that is exactly what we are doing. How can we celebrate a birthday, enjoy the benefits, but not give anything in return.

I can remember growing up, if invited to a party, and I did not have a gift to bring, my parents would not let me go because it was disrespectful to attend a birthday celebration and not bring a gift. Parents, ask your children, "What will you give to Jesus"? Make a suggestion; maybe, instead of getting that special toy and keeping it for you, you can get that toy and give it to a child in need. Alternatively, instead of getting money and spending it all on yourself, you can buy something for someone else. That is a symbol of Jesus' love and that would be something He would appreciate.

If we do not remind our kids about the reason for Christmas, who will? As parents, we have a huge responsibility and we should not take it lightly. The world will tell them that it is all about the toys, and what they want, and get, but as true believers of Christ, we know it is not. It is all about JESUS.

Do us a favor, go to the party store and get some "Happy Birthday" decorations. Then, on Christmas Eve night, once the children are gone to bed, decorate the house with the decorations. When they wake up and see the decorations, and I know they will ask whose birthday it is, you can say it is Jesus' Birthday! Tell them the story of Jesus' birth and the real reason for the day. Oh, I will be asking the children whose family did it.

We thank all the parents, Faith Kidz team members, and children for participating in "Operation Christmas Child". Your time and money really made Jesus proud. Let us get ready for next year.

On behalf of the Richards' Family, we wish you a "Merry Christmas."



Friendship is very important to kids. In order to develop healthy friendships, one must spend time with that friend. The same goes for our friend, Jesus. Jesus is the most faithful friend we have. Does your child spend a lot of time with Jesus? Well, as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, we encourage you to talk with your kids about what they can do special for the "birthday boy". Help them consider unique ways of spending their time to show love towards Jesus; such as memorizing a scripture verse, making a special picture or song just for Him, baking cookies to share with a friend, or doing something nice for someone else?

**“Jesus is the most faithful friend we have.”**

Once your kids make a decision about that special or unique thing they will do for Jesus this Christmas, have them write it down on a commitment card. If they follow through, bless them with a treat or reward. As parents, we can help our kids see that "hanging out" with our best friend, Jesus, can be truly awesome.

Merry Christmas from Walter and Adrienne Brown

# The Visit of the Shepherds

Luke 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen; which were just as they had been told. (KJV)

## DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- **DECEMBER 12TH** (Saturday) – U-Turn Worker's Workshop @ UFTL 9am – 3pm, \$10.00 per person. This event is OPEN to anyone interested in the Youth Ministry
- **DECEMBER 13TH** (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday) – Children's Church Christmas Party
- **DECEMBER 20TH** (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday) – NO Children's Church; Christmas Program @ TFC

### Music Review (Oldie but Goodie)

Anyone who's seen Kirk Franklin live knows that he's a powerful entertainer and an animated gospel singer who brings the church and the word with him wherever he goes. Christmas is Franklin's testament to faith and a showcase for some of the finest gospel singers in the Family as they soar through standards such as "Silent Night" and "Go Tell It On The Mountain," along with less familiar fare such as "Now Behold the Lamb" and "They Need To Know Him." Franklin's no gospel purist, however, whether he's charging through a hymn or telling that "Jesus Is the Reason for the Season." He interjects R&B and bits of hip-hop phrasing and jazz into the works. All of it makes for a rousing good time, one that almost turns a studio recording into a live front-pew experience that few Christmas records even come close to delivering. Somebody say Amen.  
– Martin Keller (Amazon Musical Editor)



**HAPPY**  
**Birthday**  
**JESUS Party**

**WHEN:** SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2009  
**TIME:** 10:00 A.M.

**WHERE:** MILLENNIUM MIDDLE SCHOOL  
5803 NW 94TH AVE., TAMARAC, FL

**WHO:** SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:  
PASTOR CAROL FERNANDEZ  
MUSIC PROVIDED BY:  
DJ MR. E (SOUL MOVEMENT CREW)

SPONSORED BY: THE FAITH CENTER MINISTRIES

**DON'T FORGET!**