



Sierra Law Enforcement Chaplaincy

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Comments from the Executive Director... This is the most joyous time of year for many people. Christmas is a unique season as no other man has had such a profound impact on the world as Jesus Christ. Nations who are at war will cease fire to recognize His birth. There are people who are not particularly religious but still get caught up in the celebration of exchanging gifts with their loved ones at Christmas. It is a magical and mysterious time of year.

When it comes to exchanging Christmas presents, I am often stymied thinking about what I can buy for a Christmas present I often think "What in the world can I get _____ this Christmas? It's a frequent question people ask during the Yuletide season. In our affluent materialized world, we are often at a loss to know what to buy someone as a gift (since we have so much already). You want the gift to be special but nothing comes to mind or catches your eye.

Let me make a suggestion. It won't be expensive and might sound novel, but it works. How about giving yourself? Give an hour of your time to visit someone who may be homebound. Take the time to write a letter (yes a letter, not an email) to a person you know is down or discouraged. Make a phone call to a family member who hasn't heard from you and would be delighted to hear your voice. Maybe visit an elder relative (or their friend) who is in a skilled nursing facility and won't have many visitors during the Christmas season. When you give yourself, the gift is only limited by your imagination. The gift you give could be endless.



This Christmas give something money can't buy. Instead of buying something expensive, risk giving something that will live on after you. Give of yourself! This truth overwhelms me when I realize that is exactly what God did in sending His Son to earth as a gift. The Apostle Paul put it this way: ***"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,***

that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9)

Chaplain Tim



PLEASE PRAY WITH ME FOR...

- ◇ a friend who is a retired officer and has been diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer
- ◇ the grandmother, aunt, and parents whose 15 year-old teenage daughter was killed
- ◇ an officer who was viciously attacked by a dog and is facing surgery to repair the damage and that the doctors are able to cure the severe infection that has attacked the wounds
- ◇ the wife and family of a retired officer who suddenly died
- ◇ one of my chaplains who has prostate cancer. He had surgery to have it removed and is home recovering
- ◇ a deputy whose father-in-law died; I will be officiating his funeral
- ◇ an officer with bulging discs in his back
- ◇ an officer recovering from surgery because of clogged arteries
- ◇ an officer battling temptations in his life
- ◇ an officer who is having struggles in his marriage