



Christmas

Study Verse: John 3:16

John 3:16 *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

My Thoughts: What is your first thought when you hear the word CHRISTMAS?..... Honestly, Presents. I think of winter, and wonder if this Georgia Peach will see a white Christmas this year.. LOL, Then I think, Shopping (yuck) then AMAZON (yes). It is very difficult to find a special gift for another person, because society today has whatever they choose when they choose. I'm going to sound very old right here, BUT WHEN I WAS A CHILD... Mom and Dad gave us the best they could afford. I remember Mom saved and made layaway payments all year, she would do without so her kids were able to receive at least 1 gift we asked for, and everything we needed. We did not get the latest and greatest every time it came around. We had chores and we saved our allowance. I wanted a skateboard. The Commerce News Paper was offering a subscription contest, the prize was a red fiberglass skateboard.. Man I wanted that thing, they showcased it in their office window. I'd walk by there, stare at that thing, if I could just take it for a test run.. I worked and I smiled and became the best sales rep for the Commerce News Paper. I brought home that skateboard. But in today's world it is different, easy peasy. I wished I could find that money tree forest that these kids visit to afford all they do.

As I continue to MATURE..I understand more clearly when I hear the word CHRISTMAS. I think of Jesus. Love. Giving. Today I heard God speak, JOHN 3:16. The best Gift ever given every year for generations. I can not imagine the strength and the love it would take to give my only son to the world knowing what he will face and sacrifice as God did.

The strength Mary had to watch her first born do wonderful things but to be so brutally disrespected and hated by the world. I want to cry with heart ache at the thought. But GOD.. Loves me (you) that much, Jesus loves me (you) that much, it is also as hard to imagine. I know I love my son more than life and I would lay down my life for him without hesitation, but to give him up to save the world... that hated him... I think I would rather face hell. So to attempt to understand how precious a gift God had given to me (you) is indescribable. For God so loved the world (me) that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. That is me.. He did that for me! WOW, there is no greater CHRISTMAS gift than this. I pray that you will receive this great and priceless gift today. If you have already accepted Jesus then my prayer is that you receive an even greater understanding of how priceless the gift is that you have received. Cherish this CHRISTMAS more than ever. Merry Christmas!

Until next time, May God bless, heal, protect, and grow in you daily. Everyone say, AMEN