

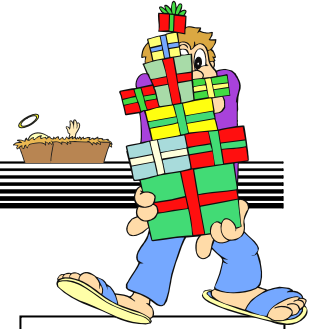
Date: December 17, 2006  
Text: John 6:24-33  
Topic: Christmas. Christ.  
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Focal Point Radio Ministries

Dr. Mike Fabarez

# Christmas Clarity

*Enjoying the Presents Without Missing the Gift*



## 1. Beware \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.24-26)

Risk #1 


Risk #2 

Risk #3 

## 2. See \_\_\_\_\_ (v.27a)

 They are

 They are

 They should

## 3. Fully \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.27b-33)





*John 6:24-33*

<sup>24</sup> Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus. <sup>25</sup> When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

<sup>26</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill.

<sup>27</sup> Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval." <sup>28</sup> Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

<sup>30</sup> So they asked him, "What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do?"

<sup>31</sup> Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" <sup>32</sup> Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.

<sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." (NIV)

# Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Has any past Christmas season ever been so busy and cluttered with shopping and presents that you feel like the point of the holiday was completely lost? How did you feel when that December 25<sup>th</sup> was over?
2. Describe a time when your financial situation necessitated a simpler lifestyle. What were some of the personal and spiritual advantages of that lean period of your life?
3. Describe a time when a desire for advancement or more material things has clearly and negatively impacted your life.
4. Read **1 Timothy 6:8**. What can you do to more purposefully pursue contentment and what practical steps can you take to keep greed at bay in your life?
5. Read **James 1:16-17**. God is good and generous to us all. What is the critical difference between being led away from God by his presents and being led to God because of his generosity?

## *Read Through the Bible in a Year*

Here's this week's schedule:

December 17<sup>th</sup>

*Nah. 1-2 & Rev. 8*

December 18<sup>th</sup>

*Nah. 3 & Rev. 9*

December 19<sup>th</sup>

*Hab. & Rev. 10*

December 20<sup>th</sup>

*Zeph. 1-2 & Rev. 11*

December 21<sup>st</sup>

*Zeph. 3 & Rev. 12*

December 22<sup>nd</sup>

*Hag. & Rev. 13*

December 23<sup>rd</sup>

*Zech. 1-2 & Rev. 14*

December 24<sup>th</sup>

*Zech. 3-4 & Rev. 15*

Here is a list of other CDs available from past sermons which may assist you in your further study of today's message.

CD # 0416 – **Money, Money, Money: A Truncated Theology of Green Paper**

CD # 0020 – **How to Keep God at the Center of a "Successful Life"**

CD # 0606 – **Being Absolutely Certain About the New Testament Gospel**

CD # 0614 – **A Crash Course in Repentance & Faith**

CD # 0656 – **Faith Magnets: Tempted to Trust in Something Other Than Christ**

Here are some resources that will assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in this week's sermon.  
(To see other recommendations by Pastor Mike related to this and other topics go to **[www.CompassBooks.org](http://www.CompassBooks.org)**.)

Alcorn, Randy. **Money, Possessions, and Eternity**. Tyndale House, 2003.

Blomberg, Craig L. **Neither Poverty nor Riches: A Biblical Theology of Possessions**. InterVarsity Press, 1999.

Burroughs, Jeremiah. **The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment**. Reprint. Banner of Truth, 1981.

Chantry, Walter J. **Today's Gospel: Authentic or Synthetic?** Banner of Truth, 1970.

Clotfelter, David. **Sinners in the Hands of a Good God: Reconciling Divine Judgment & Mercy**. Moody Press, 2004.

Getz, Gene. **Biblical Theology of Material Possessions**. Moody Press, 1991.

\_\_\_\_\_. **Real Prosperity: Biblical Principles of Material Possessions**. Moody Press, 1990.

Horn, Connie Beyer. **I Have Enough**. [Children's book: Ages 4-7.] Concordia Publishing, 1999.

Lutzer, Erwin. **Your Eternal Reward: Triumph and Tears at the Judgment Seat of Christ**. Moody Press, 1998.

MacArthur, John. **Faith Works: The Gospel According to the Apostles**. Zondervan, 1994.

Metzger, Will. **Tell The Truth: The Whole Gospel to the Whole Person by Whole People**. InterVarsity, 1984.

Miller, C. John. **Repentance and the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Man**. Christian Literature Crusade, 1975.

Roberts, Richard Owen. **Repentance: The First Word of the Gospel**. Crossway Books, 2002.

Stowell, Joseph. **Eternity: Reclaiming a Passion for What Endures**. Chicago: Moody Press, 1995.

Swindoll, Charles. **Improving Your Serve: The Art of Unselfish Living**. Thomas Nelson, 1990.