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Dear Friends in Christ.

Praise God for His wonderful gift.

This is the season of giving. It isn't what we give away from ourselves that counts as much as what we give of ourselves.

"That in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality. For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing, imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And not only as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God."

2 Corinthians 8:2-5 (NKJV)

They first gave themselves and then what they had; even out of their deep poverty. We can impress people by what we give, but we change people when we give ourselves.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

"He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Romans 8:32

God first gave Himself and then through that gift He gave us eternal life.

This Christmas let us think of ways we can give ourselves to God and to others. Give your love. Give your trust. Give your faith. Give gifts of the Spirit. Give encouragement. Give God the praise due to His wonderful Name. Give God your devotion and worship.

We all love to see the lights at Christmas time, but the Light of CHRIST-mas outshines them all.

"For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." 2 Corinthians 4:6

I pray that the Light of Jesus Christ will light up your life and radiate to all within your realm of influence. Be Blessed and be a blessing! Jesus is the Way, the Truth, the Life, the Light, the Door, the Good Shepherd and the Word that was made flesh and dwelt among us. What a Gift. Gifts are meant to be received. Open the Gift!!!

Jessie and I want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thanks again for all your love, prayers, friendship and support.

Your Servant in Christ. ><> Wayne Brooke<><