

Subject: Season's Greetings from Forward Sharing and Inspire Your Children

Thank you for stopping by our booth for a quick chat...

It's hard to believe that another year is coming to an end and another year is upon us.

We would like to thank you for sharing our thoughts

THAT GIVING IS THAT GREATEST GIFT THERE IS.

As we head into the New Year, **we challenge you**, as we are challenging ourselves; to do just one thing every month to make someone's life better. It can be as little as a smile to someone who is having a hard day or as big as volunteering your time.

The sky is the limit and the rewards are vast.

To help you start thinking about how you will be spending your time and money this year, below is a copy of our article that was published in the **Rising Women Magazine**

“Do Gifts Need to Come Wrapped with a Big Bow”

which sums up our thoughts about the importance of giving and having an open heart.

The Traditional **Christmas Carol**
Collection



Brought to you by
Inspireyourchildren.com

We have also attached a

FREE e-book of Christmas Carols

for you as a gift for you and your family.

I know that when I hear certain songs I am reminded of wonderful memories of Christmases past and how I want my children to have wonderful memories when they hear them too.

Why not start a new tradition of your own with some of these songs or share stories of time past and pass old traditions.

We would love to hear from You!

Do you have a few ideas of how we can all spread the word about giving?

If you send us your ideas we will put your name in for a draw for a surprise Christmas gift.

Send your ideas to: changes@inspireyourchildren.com

Happy Holidays everyone, see you in the New Year!

Carol and Tricia

Do Gifts Need To Come Wrapped with A Big Bow?

As featured in Rising Women Magazine December, 2010

We have all heard the saying “big things come in small packages”, but do we truly believe it? It is always the biggest gift under the Christmas tree, or brightly wrapped birthday gift that gets our attention first and keeps us guessing, but would you believe me if I told you that the best gift you will ever receive is not from under a tree and it certainly does not come wrapped with a big bow?

The greatest gift you will ever receive is the joy you experience when you give to someone else.

We have become a society that puts value on what we have, rather than what we have to give. At the end of the day we have become more in debt than ever, more alone and unfulfilled with our lives. Ever seeking the next, newest fad on the market; latest electronic gadget, newest designer outfit...bigger and better is what is best. Once we have these things, we tire of them easily, then on to the next bigger and better thing.

However, when you share with someone a gift of something so little and inexpensive as our time, a helping hand, even a thank you or an understanding hug, we can begin to expand our understanding of empathy and compassion. When we see how our thoughtfulness and consideration helps others, we become better people and that kindness becomes infectious. Other people want to experience the gift of giving because they see the joy it brings in return. When you can experience true joy and appreciation received from others, it reaches a part in your heart that no one can put in a box with a big bow.

I have had the chance to see what giving to others less fortunate has done for my children. They have a unique sense of being and pride that can only be realized when you give to someone who needs support and truly appreciates the kindness extended.

Like all children, they have basic wants and needs, but they do not feel that they deserve or have the right to receive the biggest or best, or that they need to receive a huge number of gifts before they can be happy. Because they have seen, first hand, challenges and sorrows other people have faced and witnessed the emotions of people they have helped, their character has developed into one of caring, empathy and respect.

What greater gift is that?

Written by Tricia Pujos-Michel