

WORKPLACE WISDOM NEWSLETTER

What Can I Give?

It's December! Christmas is coming!

This is the season.

This is the question:

What will I give to Mom, to Sis, to Dad, etc.?

Let me tell you who I have met these last two weeks:

- One mother of a totally deaf child.
- One man who will be divorced by his wife after the holidays
- One middle-aged man who was just told he has Alzheimer disease
- One woman who has no family with whom to spend Christmas
- One newly acquainted friend whose husband had a sudden triple bypass
- Three children whose 35-year-old mom just died of a brain aneurism

While I shopped for my family's gifts this Christmas, I remembered that simple gifts to others mean so much.

Here's what I'm thinking I should give:

- **Good cheer that says, "These times will pass."**
- **A gentle smile that encourages a heart.**
- **A listening ear that says, "I have time to sit with you."**
- **My time that lets them know, "I'm not too rushed to help you."**
- **My laughter that encourages a brief look at the "lighter side".**
- **My prayers that uplift their needs beyond my own ability to help.**

Presents – those purchased – will fade with next year's newest fad...but spending my time and showing someone that I care about them can last in a memory forever. Most of us hide behind faces that shine with pleasantries, but there is often a secret behind that face. If we treat colleagues, neighbors, friends with tenderness and kindness, we could be treating an "angel unaware".

December 18, 2006

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Slow down, look around with your heart, and you will find the most wonderful and creative ideas for gift-giving!

**So, in this season of giving,
I encourage you to find someone who needs YOU
and give a "CHRISTMAS CARING PRESENT":
*Your presence - your kindness - your care - your time -
your love.***

Merry Christmas!

May we all remember the reason for the season.

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