

1951

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The Spirit of Christmas

A^S CHRISTMAS draws nearer you will hear Father and Mother speaking of the spirit of Christmas. Perhaps you yourself will be talking about it by the time Saint Nick gets here. Just what is this spirit of Christmas that makes the closing days of the year the most delightful of all?

When we begin to feel the spirit of Christmas everything seems to change for us: the snow seems whiter, the sun brighter, the chirps of the birds around the feeding tray sound more cheerful and happy, and the rabbit that seeks shelter under the low shrubs in the back yard is a bit more confident as he hops across the snow. We ourselves change too. We are more eager to help with the dishes, run errands for Mother or the neighbors, help younger brothers and sisters with heavy coats and galoshes, and do our homework without being told, all because the spirit of Christmas is in the air.

All these things come about because the spirit of Christmas is the spirit of love. When our heart is filled with love, we look upon everything around us through eyes of love, and nothing looks ugly to us. A snowy, blowy day that seems bitter and disagreeable to a person who does not love it is a beautiful, happy day to the boy who loves to wrap up snug and warm and let the soft snow spat against his cheeks as he does an errand for Mother. Love in the heart makes the difference.

There was a time long ago when people did not have Christmas. God knew the hearts of the people on earth and He knew that they needed love to give them happiness. So He sent us His first Christmas gift, the Christ Child, to love us and teach us to love one another. And today wherever the Christ Child is known and loved we find the spirit of Christmas.

May the love of the Christ Child glow warm and bright in our hearts, making joyous this Christmas.





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And so n	nany special joys:
	any special joys.

- Wrapping Christmas packages, Helping trim the tree With lights and glistening snowflakes
- That just seem to dance with glee;

