



Christmas Bedtime Stories

My Own Stockings

There's no Christmas tree,
But a real tree for me,
Straight out of the ground,
Is how it's got to be.

And no fake stockings,
Do I use.
I use my own socks,
That's what I choose.

They come right off my feet,
Right out of my shoe,
One for me,
And one for you.

So I hung them up,
And went to bed,
But when I woke up,
I saw instead,
That my socks smelled bad,
I shook my head,
Because I had,
A tree that was dead.



Thinking Things Through

Like in the story, sometimes we do things without considering the results of our actions. But a godly person will not only consider whether what he is doing is right or wrong, but also how it will affect others. Will it help and encourage them in their walk with Jesus or could it trip them up? Will it bring glory to God? Listen to what the Bible says in 1 Corinthians 10:31, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

Little Jack Spree

Little Jack Spree,
Lived on a Christmas tree,
And late at night,
He'd turn on the lights,
So that he could see.

Then he'd hide,
And he'd slide,
Down the trim,
From limb to limb,
That's Little Jack Spree, you see.

But late one day,
While Jack did play,
He heard a sudden knocking,
And fell into a stocking,
And couldn't get free, you see.

He did pull and tug,
But he was stuck so snug,
And though he wiggled about,
He couldn't get out,
Poor Jack Spree, I see.

Then he did something very unwise,
He shouted and screamed and gave loud cries,
And in panic he lost his wits,
And threw twelve different kinds of fits.
Little Jack Spree lost control, you see.

In terror, he just couldn't say no,
And the more he struggled the deeper he'd go,
Finally he sank in candy to his chin.
And he thought at last that this was the end.
Poor Jack Spree no more would be, you see.

Then he recalled what to do,
When something happens that really scares you.
On God you can cast all your care,
Because the Lord is always standing right there.
Then he said, "I will not fear,
Though I think the end is finally here,
Because I know the Lord is near."

He kept saying this as he would think.
Then a thought hit him: This sock doesn't stink.
It's bad enough to be stuck in there,
Without a nasty smell filling the air.
And though he wasn't free,
He became thankful, you see.
Even in the bad you can still thank the Lord,
Because that's what it says in His Holy Word.

Then something changed in Little Jack Spree,
The thankfulness stole the fear from he,
And slowly he did struggle and slowly he did climb,
Because he now felt a peace on his mind.

At last he came out,
And he declared with a shout,
"Even in bad you can still find the good!"
Little Jack Spree understood, you see.

Then he climbed up real far,
As high as the shining star,
And he said a thankful prayer,
That God is always there,
And we need not ever fear,
Because He's always near.



Calmness

Someone can be calm and have peace in the middle of hard or frightening situations when their trust is fixed on Christ. The

Bible says in Philippians 4:6-7, "Do not be anxious (worry) about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Little Jack Spree and a Gift for Me

Let me tell you the tale,
Of Little Jack Spree,
Who lived on top,
Of a Christmas tree.

He'd wait all year,
For Christmas, you know,
And watch as the gifts,
Appeared below.

Then he'd climb down,
Every night,
And spy out the tags,
Beneath the tree light.

Then he'd come back up,
Feeling real low,
'Cause he looked but didn't,
Find his name below.

"It's just not right.
It's just not fair,
That my name,
Is not there."

"There are gifts,
For Betty, Bailey, and Bo.
Presents for Jimmy,
And Uncle Joe."

"But none for me!
None for me!
It's just not fair,
Don't you see?"
"So I'll take them all,
All there be,

Both big and small,
Just for me."

So on Christmas Eve,
He climbed down,
And on his face,
Was an evil frown.

And into the presents,
He did tear,
Without any thought,
Of love or care.

"They're all for me!
All for me!
Can't you see?
Can't you see?"

He unwrapped balls and bats,
And fuzzy, pink slippers.
He opened cards and candies,
And chocolate milk sippers.

Then he found clothing,
And doolies for their hair.
He even unwrapped,
Some polka dot underwear.

He found combs and brushes,
And a new pair of boots,
Toys and trinkets,
And all sorts of fruits.

But when all was done,
And all was through,
He looked at the gifts,
And suddenly felt blue.

Gifts are not fun,
If no one's there,
To laugh and smile,
And really care

That's when he realized,
That's when he knew,
There was only one thing,
That he could do.

Re-wrap each gift,
And put it in place,
Then wait to see,
The smile on each face.

So that's what he did,
It took him all night,
But the last one was finished,
Before the first light.

Then Jack Spree watched,
From far up above,
And saw the family share,
The gifts of their love.

Then he knew that Christmas,
Was about more than a gift,
What are presents without love,
To share it with?

Christmas is about love,
The love of one Man,
Who was God in a body,
Who came with a plan.

To die on a cross,
To save you and me,
That's why Christmas without Jesus,
Is empty, you see.

He's the reason we share,
He's the reason we love,
Because God sent His Son,
From heaven above.



Greed

Sometimes when gifts are involved, we are more concerned about ourselves than anyone else, but listen to what Jesus said in the Bible in Acts 20:35, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." This Christmas, don't just think about yourself, but remember that Christmas is about Jesus and how He became the greatest gift of all. Then share His love with others.

My Gift to You

Do you want to know,
My gift for you?
Then close your eyes,
That's what you must do.

What do you see?
Now tell me true,
"Nothing," you say,
Well, that's my gift to you.



Every Good Gift

The Bible says in James 1:17, "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Egg Nog

Give me egg nog,
Every day,
Pour me a glass,
Please I say.

Would you like some?
"Yes," my friend said.
Then he licked his lips,
And nodded his head.

He drank it all down,
The whole big cup.
Then my friend turned green.
Then he threw up!



Right and Wrong

Whether or not you like Egg Nog is a matter of taste. There's no right or wrong opinion, but in life, right will always be right and wrong will always be wrong.

What is right today was right when God made the world and will be right until the end of time. What's wrong today has always been wrong and will always be wrong. Right and wrong will NEVER change. So if anyone tells you that it's just a matter of opinion, you'll know they're wrong.

T'was the Night Before Christmas

T'was the night before Christmas,
And all through the home,
We could hear the loud snoring,
Of Uncle Jerome.

The family had come,
From real far and real near,
To share with us,
Their Christmas cheer.

I laid awake,
On top of my bed,
Thinking of presents,
Stacked as high as my head.

When to where,
Should my weary mind go,
But to toys and treats,
And Christmas snow.

When what should my wandering thoughts,
Finally see,
But lots of presents,
And all for me.

Above the loud snoring,
That kept pace with the time,
Came one word—
Mine! Mine! Mine!

Then my dreams drifted,
Back to a time long ago,
When a Savior was born,
Who loved me so.

Then above the noise,
Of the loud snores,
One word came to me—
Yours! Yours! Yours!

That's when it struck me,
And I knew it was true,
That Christmas isn't about gifts,
But it's all about YOU—
And whether you know,
The God of love,
Who sent His Son,
From heaven above.

With these thoughts,
I fell asleep until light,
Wishing that everyone,
Knew my Jesus tonight.



Sharing Christ

The best gift you can share with a friend is the Good News of Jesus, and sharing Christ begins by realizing that not everyone knows Him. Who do you know who might not know the Lord?

The Bible says in John 1:12, "Yet to all who received him [Jesus], to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."

A Gift for Mom

No money.
That's what I had,
And no gift for my mom,
And no gift for my dad.

Since sad is how,
This made me feel,
I gave my mom,
A banana peel.

I didn't mean,
For it to trip her.
I just thought she'd like,
A brand new slipper.



The Greatest Gift of All

Some gifts may seem better than others but one thing remains true: Jesus is the greatest gift of all. The Bible says in 1 John 4:14, "And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world."

The Jingle Bell

"Eat everything in your bowl,"
That's what my mom said,
Just before a jingle bell fell,
And hit me in the head.

Plop! It went in my bowl.
But my mom said to eat it all.
So now I kind of jingle,
When I'm walking down the hall.



Don't Be Crazy

Why would anybody eat a jingle bell? That's crazy, but sometimes we do unwise things too. Why would anybody disobey Jesus? Think about it. When someone sins, it causes hurt and pain and grief and never brings anything good. So why would anyone want to do bad things? So take this challenge: Love Jesus and do what's right.

The Bible says in John 14:23, "Jesus replied, 'If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. May Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.'"

A Gift for Dad

I gave my dad a wallet,
And put a bill inside.
A good gift,
Please don't call it.
The bill, you see,
Was for the wallet.



The Free Gift

Nobody gets a gift and then has to pay for it. Gifts are free—just like God's gift of salvation. You can't earn it or pay for it. Jesus paid it all when He died and rose again. The Bible says in Ephesians 2:8-9, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."

The Eating Dog

We strung popcorn,
Around the Christmas tree,
And I suppose my dog,
Was hungry, as you will see.

He ate the popcorn,
Then he ate a limb,
The he ate the whole thing,
Before we found him.

Now he stands in the corner,
Decorated with a wreath.
We put a star on his head,
And our presents underneath.



Created with Purpose

Do you think a dog would make a good Christmas tree? Of course not. Dogs were created to run and bark, not to stand in a corner with a star on top. Trees, however, can't run and bark, can they? They have an entirely different purpose. And then there's you...God made you for a reason also—a special plan that's just for you and no one else in the world and fulfill God's calling for your life. It's just for you because you are one-of-a-kind.

The Bible says in Psalm 139:14, "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well."

A Skunk for Christmas

I want a skunk for Christmas,
In a bright, red box.
I don't want brand new underwear.
I don't brand new socks.

I don't want fuzzy pajamas,
I don't want bunny slippers,
I don't want hats and mittens,
Or a jacket with lots of zippers.

"I want a skunk!"
I did yell.
"With a big, white stripe,
Down his tail."

"Where would you keep him?"
My mom said,
"Surely not in the kitchen.
Surely not in your bed."

"I'll keep him in *your* bedroom."
I said very proudly.
"What about the smell?"
She responded rather loudly.

Her question made me think,
Then I thought that I might quit.
But still I responded strongly,
"The skunk will get used to it."



What Belongs

There's a reason none of your friends have pet skunks. They don't belong. There are other things that don't belong in your life too. Sin doesn't belong in your life. God didn't create you

to do bad things. He made you to know Him and to love Him and to walk with Him all the days of your life. The Bible says in Micah 6:8, "He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."