

December 13, 2025
14th Day of Advent

What's Under the Wrapping?

Scripture:

"People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." – 1 Samuel 16:7

Reflection:

When we see a gift wrapped in bright paper and tied with a bow, our excitement grows. The wrapping catches our eye, but we know the real treasure is inside. Wrapping paper is temporary — it's torn away and thrown aside so the true gift can be revealed.

In the same way, our outward appearance — our clothes, possessions, or even the way we present ourselves to others—can be like wrapping paper. It might look good, but it's not what matters most. God cares about what's inside: our hearts.

Life teaches us not to be fooled by "wrapping." Some things that look appealing may be empty, while the greatest gifts often come in the simplest packages. Jesus Himself came wrapped not in royal robes but in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger. The greatest gift came in humble wrapping. So, the next time you see wrapping paper or open a gift, pause and thank God for the true treasures in your life that aren't always visible—love, faith, family, and His presence in your heart.

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for reminding me that what's on the outside doesn't define my worth. Teach me to value what's inside—my character, my heart, and my walk with You. Help me to see others not by their "wrapping" but by the beauty You've placed within them. Amen.

Submitted by Bobby Forsythe