

It’s almost time for us to give *each other* gifts on *Jesus*’ birthday. Will you forgive us for getting that mixed up again this year? There's so much wrapping going on: paper, gift bags and boxes, tags and tape, ribbons and bows: everyone’s wrapped up in wrapping! So I offer you, Lord, all the things I’m wrapped up in - the things that need unwrapping...  
  
• I get wrapped up so easily in little things while the big things that matter go undone…  
 *Unwrap me, Lord, and make me faithful to the that truly deserve my attention…*

• I get wrapped up in things that waste my time and time is one of my most precious possessions,  
 my time is your gift to me…

*Unwrap me, Lord, and make a good steward*

*of my days and nights, my work, my play and my rest…*  
• I get wrapped up in day dreams and fantasies and often let my most important hopes go untended…  
 *Unwrap me, Lord, and sharpen my vision of what’s real and what helps me truly grow…*  
  
• I get wrapped up in desires for what I should not or cannot have - or simply just don’t need…  
 *Unwrap me, Lord, and give me a hunger for what truly nourishes and satisfies…*  
• I get wrapped up in hurt and anger, sapping my energy

keeping me from reaching out generously to others...  
 *Unwrap me, Lord, and free my heart to be with others and to do for others…*  
  
• And I wrap myself up in my *self*: in my fears, my envy, my worries, my disappointments…  
 *Unwrap me, Lord, and let me see the blessings I have:  
 the gifts of your presence, your comfort and your strength...*

*Unwrap me, Lord, and help me share the gift of my blessings with others…*   
 *Unwrap me, Lord, so that nothing hides me from you and your love*

*and the love of those around me…*  
I have Christmas gifts for others, Lord, but it’s *your* birthday, so I offer you

my unwrapped heart, my opened faith, my unsealed trust…  
Unwrap me, Lord - I need your help - I can’t unwrap myself… Amen.

**-** Fr, Fleming at **ConcordPastor.blgospot.com**