

## **How many gifts will you give to the kids? To each other?**

- **What is your heart attitude about this question? Is it faithful or foolish?**
  - **Are you giving out of sense of joy and love?**
  - **Or are you trying to show your love with a once-a-year bonanza of gift buying?**
    - **This is an especially tough issue for separated or divorced parents. Don't make it a competition for the kids' love, or a show of one-up-man-ship over your estranged spouse. The kids are not prizes to be won – they are god's masterpieces.**
- **Take a look at the budget. Even folks with relatively unlimited funds don't necessarily shower their kids or their spouses with stuff at Christmas time.**
- **Especially with the kids, don't promise gifts you can't afford. No one likes to disappoint a child, but you have to be realistic.**
- **If the children on your list have wish lists of their own, give them one of the items that they really want – don't buy the whole list. If other adults are shopping for the little ones as well, coordinate the list. Grandparents take note!**
- **Finally, review last year's experience. How many of those gifts were actually appreciated after the wrappings were discarded?**