

Published based on [Seeing Christmas Through the Gift of Myrrh](#)

Seeing Christmas Through the Gift of Myrrh



I love meaningful gifts. What's a meaningful gift? For me, it's a gift that says you know me. You understand at least some of the essence of who I am. And it cannot be dishtowels. My hubby and kids all know that I hate getting dishtowels for Christmas (lol, can you tell that I get dishtowels every year from a certain beloved relative?)

The magi brought meaningful gifts to Jesus. Jesus, being just a small child, certainly couldn't grasp the significance of the gifts but yet they were deeply meaningful. They were prophetic gifts. Frankincense, gold, and myrrh.

I wonder if Joseph and Mary kept the gifts, thought on their meaning, or perhaps, re-gifted? Nah...

This morning I've been pondering the gift of myrrh.

Myrrh is derived from tree sap. A tree is wounded, repeatedly, pierced to locate the resin deep inside the tree. The resin then begins to ooze from the cut, dripping out in tear-formed drops which are left to harden on the tree. Later this hardened resin is collected and transformed into something useful. Although myrrh tastes bitter, its fragrance is incredibly beautiful. In the days of Jesus, it was often used in burial and many times symbolized death.

How beautifully this gift spoke of Jesus' life and death!

Does it speak of your life?

Have you been wounded in this life? Pierced deeply? Repeatedly? Do you have a bitter taste in your mouth from

the woundedness?

How can your deep woundedness become a lovely fragrance?

Well, just like myrrh, it is a process that takes time. It costs. The process may involve pain, suffering, bitterness, and hardening, but God's refining applied to the essence that flows out of our wounded places, can create an aroma that rises from our lives that is a gift. A gift to ourselves, a gift to others, and a gift to God.

Have the wounded places in your life become gifts?

What a great time to ponder the gift that we now have and enjoy that flows out of his wounds.

You can also find this article published on [Seeing Christmas Through the Gift of Myrrh](#)