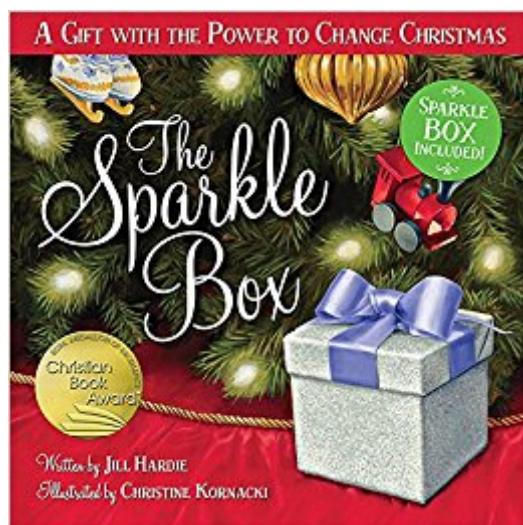


The book was found

The Sparkle Box: A Gift With The Power To Change Christmas



Synopsis

The moving story of an uncommon gift and how giving to others shows a little boy the true meaning of Christmas. Sam is so excited about Christmas! He's thinking about his Christmas list, anticipating holiday parties, and puzzling over one very mysterious gift -- a sparkly box sitting on the mantel above the fireplace. In the midst of the festivities, Sam and his family participate in various acts of kindness to others. On Christmas morning, when Sam finally opens the Sparkle Box, he finds only slips of paper that record the family's good deeds. Sam's parents explain that the things that they've been doing for others are, in fact, a gift for Jesus -- for Jesus said that whatever we do for the least of these, we do for Him. This heartfelt story will inspire readers to adopt this faith-centered tradition in their own homes. Ages 4-8. Includes a glitter-coated fold-out Sparkle Box!

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 710L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Ideals Children's Books (October 1, 2012)

Language: English

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 166 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #243,952 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Holidays & Celebrations #72 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Values & Virtues #563 in Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Christmas

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Jill Hardie is a writer and marketing professional with a great deal of enthusiasm for the Sparkle Box concept. Jill's family started their tradition of giving a gift to Jesus about six years ago; now, the Sparkle Box is the gift they most anticipate opening each year. Jill, her husband, and their two children live in North Canton, Ohio. Christine Kornacki illustrated the highly acclaimed books The Sparkle Egg and The First Christmas Night. At a very early age, she developed a love for painting

and bringing stories to life. Christine received a BFA in illustration from the University of Hartford and enjoys spending her days painting in her studio in Stamford, Connecticut.

I heard about this book on the Christian radio station I listen to every morning. They actually read this book over the air and I knew I had to have this for my 4 year old granddaughter. This book teaches valuable lessons about helping those that are less fortunate than we are and involves a child learning this lesson. This book also contains a Sparkle Box that you put together at the back of this book. It doesn't come with a ribbon, but you can add your own if you like. I read this story to my little granddaughter and when I showed her the Sparkle Box, she immediately had to put it together and put it on her living room mantle. She loved it, even as young as she is. This serves as a reminder for her to do kind things for others. I highly recommend this book to others if you want to teach valuable lessons to the child(ren) in your life.

I gave this as a gift to each of my adult children to read to my grandchildren. They were all pleased and read the books to the grandchildren. As my children were growing up and we didn't always have a lot, we always gave to others in so many ways. They received the blessings of giving and now I want them to pass it on to my grandchildren. It doesn't always have to be about money when you help someone, it could be a simple phone call to ask how are you? Do you need some extra groceries I had coupons to shop today and I have extra food. It could be sweeping a porch or walkway for an older person. To see the smile on the faces is such a blessing.....

Wonderful book for our family! Our children (ages 2, 4 and 6) really enjoyed the story and were super excited to fill the sparkle box with "gifts for Jesus." We have a tradition of having a birthday party for Jesus, so this adds to our tradition nicely. There is no mention of Santa in the story, only references to Jesus' birth.

I wasn't sure how my boys would receive this story, but all the recommendations told me I HAD to add it to my Christmas reading. I am so glad I did. The message that Christmas is Jesus' birthday is something that gets lost in lots of kids as they think of only receiving gifts, not giving them. But how to you give Jesus a birthday gift? This story gave great examples of that and even give you a sparkle box of your own. I highly recommend it and will make it part of my advent reading every year with my kids.

This story is a great illustration for children and adults about giving to Jesus. Sometimes we think we aren't really doing much for Jesus. When you record everything you did to help others throughout the year, put it in the sparkle box and then read it on Christmas morning, you find you have done much more than you realized and it encourages you to do more. Children don't always see what ministries the parents are involved in and what they are supporting so it is a good influence for them. This book helped us to think differently about the volunteer work we do. We now think of it as a gift for Jesus. Our children are a little bit older. I wish we would have had this when they were young. This Sparkle Box idea can be a great family tradition. We will certainly be making it a tradition with our family.

I just purchased this book for both my daughters to read to their children. My grandchildren, 6, 4, and 4, are ALL excited to begin the tradition of filling the Sparkle Box with "gifts to Jesus". We plan to do exactly as was described in the book, write down the good deeds we did for others during the Christmas season, put the folded papers in the Sparkle Box, and then open our boxes on Christmas Eve BEFORE we open our gifts to each other. Already (it's not even Halloween yet!), my oldest grandson has been thinking of things he can do for others so he can put a note inside the Sparkle Box. This book is a true treasure, a lovely story with beautiful artwork, and the addition of an actual SPARKLE BOX is the topping on the cake - or shall I say the "star" on the treetop? I HIGHLY recommend this delightful hardback book. I can see ourselves continuing the tradition in our family for years to come.

Our family reads this every year when we set our tree up, and we add the acts of kindness we do to the box as we go through the Christmas season. One of our favorite traditions is to open the box and read them out loud on Christmas Day.... This is a wonderful book and has shown our young children that everyone can do things both big and small that make an impact, and giving is the greatest gift!

I bought this book a few weeks before Christmas and our family read it together. We loved the idea of "The Sparkle Box" and will begin our own tradition incorporating this idea. I then purchased another copy for some family friends and they enjoyed it as well. The overall concept: It is better to give than to receive!

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