



*Merry Christmas  
2009*

from Chiz Rider Ministries

\* A special thanks to Noelle Roberts for the beautiful family photos - [www.noelleroberts.com](http://www.noelleroberts.com)  
We would also like to thank Kim Ryder for your hardwork and willingness to help make our newsletter a success

# Introduction



This newsletter is missing our usual 'Family Matters' and 'Ministry Needs' because we want to put more focus on "Chiz's Corner". This month's article may actually end up helping you with your shopping because it talks about an awesome gift that you can give people this holiday season. This gift doesn't need wrapped and it won't cost you anything at all. It was already paid for a long time ago. Please take a few minutes to read about it, because it will be the best gift you or anyone could ever receive.

## Ministry Updates

December is always a crazy (but fun) month for us. It seems that our concerts are a lot more intimate this time of year, and that people really enjoy the Christmas music that we play. Our schedules are going to be quite busy both on the road and in the office right up until Christmas, then we shut down the office and take two weeks off to be with our families.

My favorite time is a few days after Christmas when Kelli, the kids and I just stay at home playing games and building Lego's. My job gives me the characteristics of being an extrovert, but my personality (especially this time of year) always leans towards being an introvert. Those two or three days after Christmas end up being my favorite days of the year because for that short time, there are no phones to answer, no traveling to be done, no concerts, no plans. It's just me and my family.

January is always very slow for us. We find that a lot of churches don't like to schedule much because of the weather and because their people are worn out from December. As soon as February starts, we crank it up for another awesome year. We have a lot of new music in the works and will begin to add those songs in January. I'm really hoping to get back into the studio in 2010 to do a new recording. We have a lot of cool ideas and know it will be our best album yet.

As always, I want to encourage you all to come to our shows when we're in your area. If you have a minute, send us a quick e-mail and let us know how you're doing. May God bless your Christmas and New Year. May it be centered on family, friends and most importantly, on Him.

Thanks for staying in touch,

Chiz

# Chiz's Corner



A few months ago during our New England tour, Christian and I had a day off, so we decided to go grocery shopping and pick up a few snacks to munch on while hanging out at the hotel. At home, Kelli does most of the shopping so it had been a while since I really shopped for myself and for things I liked. Well, I remember talking with Christian as we were walking through the aisles and then I stopped....I saw a bag of cookies that I haven't seen in years. I'm pretty sure that I heard music playing and the whole grocery store was dimly lit except for the glorious light that was shining down from heaven onto this bag of cookies that I didn't even know still existed.

I remember wanting to leave the store as fast as we could so I could eat my cookies. Of course we had to stand in a long line at the check out and had a lot of traffic as we drove back to the hotel. When we arrived at our room, I ripped the bag open to eat these awesome cookies and..... and.....WHAT THE HECK IS THAT??? The cookies that I remembered from my child hood, with icing all over them, barley had enough icing to even color them. As a matter of fact, I think the whole bag couldn't even accumulate the same amount of icing that even one cookie used to have. What is that all about? Things are suppose to get better with time, not worse. I was devastated.

I can think back to so many things in life that I have looked forward to and then have been let down; rides at amusement parks, meeting certain people, vacations, purchases, and yes, even owning a bus. I remember when I was little {and yes I still do it today} getting presents at Christmas time and my birthdays and I would always open the presents that I knew were clothes and save the cool looking boxes for the end. Even now, I know I'll get socks and jeans for Christmas and I will open those present first and save the "unknown" boxes for the end. This past year, the cool box was two pairs of jeans rolled up into an oddly shaped box. Don't get me wrong, I love to get jeans, {did you get that hint mom?} but that cool box could have been a sweet tool or some nice electronic toy or something else. It seems that we all become disappointed with things in our lives and is often those material things that let us down.

A long time ago, I received the best present of all. It wasn't wrapped in a cool box, it didn't come in a bag that said "Icing covered cookies", and it didn't even come on a cool piece of paper. It didn't fill the space under the Christmas tree or even make the Sears wish book. But it did fill my heart. It gave my life freedom from sin and gave me a purpose to live. It didn't come from Santa's sleigh but from the Creator of the universe. The greatest gift I ever received was Jesus Christ as my Savior.

Most of the material gifts that I'm often interested in come with a one or two year warranty. This gift from God lasts for eternity. This year has been a very hard year for many people, and this time of year can be very hard for people who are struggling financially, but this gift from God doesn't cost anything to you because it cost God a lot.

# Chiz's Corner

God sent His one and only Son, Jesus Christ down to this earth many, many years ago to live a perfect life, so He could be the perfect sacrifice for our sins. Our sins are the things that you and I do wrong everyday of our lives. When Jesus died on the cross, He died for the murderer, the rapist, the thief, the drug dealer, the liar and you. You may not have committed murder or taken drugs, but you have probably lied, had bad thoughts about other people, or gossiped about someone. Whether you are the worst person on the face of the earth or the best, we are all in need of Gods forgiveness - and the only way to get it is through Jesus Christ.

You can ask Christ into your life right now by admitting you have done things wrong in your life and know that through the blood that Jesus shed for you on the cross, you can be forgiven of those sins. Know that Christ defeated that sin through His blood and by rising from the dead three days after He was crucified. If you haven't done so already, ask Christ to come into your life to be your Lord and Savior. Next, get connected with a pastor at a near by church and ask that pastor to help you build your relationship with Christ. If you need help connecting at a church, please call our office and we would love to help you find a church in your area.

As I mentioned before, I was disappointed in my cookies because they barely had any icing on them, and that really cool box was just jeans, but this gift of Jesus Christ is the greatest gift of all. As you begin and grow in your relationship with Christ you will never be disappointed, you'll never be alone again and you'll have this gift for eternity.

Maybe you're already a Christian and have received Gods gift, what you should do now is spread this gift by sharing it with other people. Christmas is the best time of year to share the Love of Christ with other people. This year there are a lot of people that are discouraged and are looking for "change". The stimulus package is not the answer; health care reform will not help. The change everyone is seeking will not come from an elected official but through Jesus Christ.

This holiday season, we should all share the gift of Jesus Christ with other people. Don't try to wrap this gift and give it to anyone in a fancy package. Don't try to add flare, icing or anything to it; don't take anything from it, because it has everything. This is the greatest gift of all!

May God bless you and your family.

Merry Christmas!

-Chiz

