



**By Samantha D., age 12,  
Utah, USA**

One day I decided to make a Christmas wish list because I was so excited about Christmas. I made a fancy title and used Santa Claus hats as bullet points.

My older brother came into the room to print off his list. I didn't really care about his list because mine was going to be so fantastic. Mine had color and Santa Claus hats, and his was only black and white.

I wanted a lot of stuff: a pogo stick, pens, a puppy, a cat, etc. When I was done, I put my list on the fridge. My brother's list was already hanging up. It said, "This year I

would like to use half my Christmas money to give to others."

I was amazed at what my brother was doing with his Christmas money. I couldn't believe it. My brother who gets in fights with me a lot was giving instead of getting.

My Christmas list now seemed small and almost useless. Maybe I could do the same thing. I would be helping others, and I would feel good about myself. There's a center near my home that helps children. I asked my mom if I could make some blankets for the kids there for Christmas. I hope I can give just like my brother.

I learned a lot more than I probably have ever learned about Christmas. Jesus Christ gave His life for us, so why should we not give to others in need? We don't need all our wants. This year I will think more about Christ and what He did for us than I ever have. And I will focus on giving instead of getting. ♦



# The Christmas-List Surprise