

## **“What Did You Receive?”**

**By Pastor Bill Hayden**

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When you were a youth, do you remember being asked after the Holiday Season and returning to school, “What did you get for Christmas?” Sometimes, it was self-evident for most kids because generally they would receive clothing twice a year. I would receive clothing at the beginning of the school year, Christmas, and on rare occasions at Easter. Some kids, like me, would hold off wearing their new clothing from Christmas for several weeks after returning to school. I liked to incorporate the new clothing into my attire gently.

Some habits never change because curious minds continue to ask, “What did you receive for Christmas?” Well, my Christmas gift came to me in August with the birth of a Great-granddaughter named Gloria Iyanu Adeyemi. There is no gift in the world more precious than new life and the opportunity to witness her growth and development.

Gloria and I are abundantly grateful to be alive and to witness her response to our interactions with her and her mother. She is fascinated with all that she observes from sound and sight.

We pray that your Christmas was an abundant blessing and for precious memories from your past and present celebrations. Christmas is all about life's past, present, and future. With a grateful heart, we ask the Lord to bless you in the New Year with a reasonable portion of good health so that you can bless others. May you receive good friends to encourage you in the sunset of your life as you cast all your cares upon your Savior!

The greatest gift of all time that we have been given is Jesus Christ. “A thief is only there to steal, kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.” {John 10:10 MSG}.

Please celebrate with us and experience the Good Life at the Villages Community Chapel in Cribari Auditorium this Sunday at 10 a.m. to be encouraged over the Word of Life and enjoy coffee and cookies with friends. The chapel is a place for needs to be met, faith to be affirmed, and new friends to embrace. You can view our worship services on YouTube at [www.villagescommunitychapel.vgcc.club](http://www.villagescommunitychapel.vgcc.club)

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025**