

“Prepare Ye The Way”

[Luke 3:4](#)

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By Rebecca Enney

Are you prepared for Christmas at your house? Mrs. Mawakasunga has been working all weekend preparing for Christmas at her house! Believe me, Elizabeth knows.

“Now when you’ve finished wrapping those gifts, could you please come help me with the Christmas cookies,” she asked Elizabeth. “And when you’ve finished the cookies, make room in the freezer for them. Oh, and your father still needs to put up those extra strings of lights on the trees out front. Go out back and remind him to get that done when he finishes with the wood pile. Perhaps Aunt Gertrude can help you with the gift wrap dear.”



Elizabeth is getting tired! She has been working ALL DAY preparing for Christmas. She had wanted to invite her new friends over, Harry and Linda, but it looked like there would be no time for play. It seems to Elizabeth that “Prepare Ye The Way” is all about doing all the chores to get ready for CHRISTMAS Day. “What about THIS day,” Elizabeth thought.

Aunt Gertrude helped Elizabeth finish the gift wrap. Then they decorated the cookies and placed them in the freezer.

“Now can I invite Harry and Linda over?” she asked hopefully. “Oh, certainly not. We need to keep the house tidy for company at Christmas,” her mother answered.

Elizabeth looked at Aunt Gertrude, who said “Help me put the empty decoration boxes in the attic,” which they did. And they also emptied the dishwasher. And they shinned up the mirror

In the living room and as it was just starting to get dark, they screwed in the little light bulbs in each candle in each window.

Elizabeth noticed how pretty the house looked with the mirrors sparkling and the candles glowing in the windows and she said to her aunt "I sure wish we could have some fun TODAY instead of always waiting until Christmas!"

"I think you make a good point, Child," said Aunt Gertrude. "Why don't you invite your new friends over and we'll play a game of Parcheesi before supper. But first I'll make sure it is okay with your mother."

Aunt Gertrude went over to her sister and the two of them had an 'animated' discussion. Elizabeth heard her aunt say "Of course preparing for Christmas is important, Lorena. But that does not mean only the chores. It means to extend the love and anticipation of that day into the all the days that come before and after December 25. Let the child feel your love and happiness TODAY. Don't withhold it from her until Christmas!"

Soon Harry and Linda had arrived and the four of them had arranged themselves around the Parcheesi board. "May I play also?" asked Mrs. Mawakasunga as she set aside the pile of laundry she was folding.



"It is only a four person game, but you may be my partner," said Aunt Gertrude.

And they had a delightful time. Harry won the first game and Elizabeth won the second game. Elizabeth's daddy walked Harry and Linda back home across the street as Aunt Gertrude and Elizabeth's mother put the Parcheesi board away. Elizabeth watched as the one sister smiled and hugged the other.

"Thank you for reminding me how important TODAY is, it is not just about TOMORROW."

THE END