

“Make Gift Giving Less Materialistic”

Dear Adam and Eve:

How can I make gift giving seem less materialistic for my family this year?

Thanks, Hannah

Dear Hannah:

The short answer is “By buying fewer materials!” Fewer toys, fewer clothes, less everything! And, by teaching and doing one small thing: use less wrapping paper!

From a recent “stopglobalwarming.org” e-letter, 4 million tons (that’s 8 billion pounds!) of wrapping paper and shopping bags are thrown away just during the winter holidays! So, look around your home and use those colorful comic strip pages, fabric scraps, scarves, reusable boxes, tins, and jars as alternatives.

If you must buy wrapping materials, make sure it’s on recycled paper. And, save those used bows to re-use next year. Also, check with your curbside recycler to see if you can add used wrapping paper to your bag of newspapers, magazines and junk mail.

You can also give gifts that don’t need to be wrapped at all: like donating to MLGW’s program to pay utilities for those in need to help keep them warm and “light their world”!

With these thoughts, we have addressed all four approaches to being more responsible:

And Remember!

RETHINK! REDUCE! REUSE! RECYCLE!

Please email questions/comments to DearAdamandEve@timemphis.org or write “Dear Adam and Eve”, c/o Temple Israel, 1376 E. Massey Rd., Memphis, TN 38120

