

Gifts

Esther 9:19 Therefore the Jews of the villages, that dwelt in the unwalled towns, made the fourteenth day of the month Adar a day of gladness and feasting, and a good day, and of sending portions one to another.

“Purim Portions for Husband and Friends”

Purim is near and you want to be certain that you spread mirth to your lord and sisters on this day of gladness.

Do not fret, we are going to address gifting for your husband and friends as well as a few bumps that you may hit on the road to the perfect gift.

Choosing the right gift

When it comes to selecting the best gift and getting the best bang for your buck, there are a few boxes to check off:

1. Practicality
2. Thoughtfulness
3. Needs based

The practicality of the gift refers to the actual usefulness of the product. Thoughtfulness pertains to how much care and intention went into choosing or securing the item. Lastly, needs based refers to selecting an item that is needed by the recipient, but that need has been delayed or unmet. A gift that meets either of these three criteria usually makes for a great gift, but a gift that meets all, does not get any better.

Let us look at an example:

A new IUIIC Letterman Jacket is practical, as our men go to camp year-round in all weather. Thoughtful if your lord has expressed how cold he usually is in his current coat and you remembered. Needs based because a woman that loves her husband as herself would not (Mathew 22:39) send her man out unprepared in the cold.

Matthew 22:39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself

Extra points if you make a product yourself or seek out someone who can personalize your gift.

Proverbs 31:19 - She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.

Proverbs 31:27 - She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.

What do you get for someone that has everything?

The age-old question. First try to meet either or all three of the great gifting criteria mentioned above, or... wait for it... nothing, you buy them nothing. Let us face it, individuals that have it all are rarely impressed with a new product especially if it may be a repeat of something they already own.

Here's where services come in. Services can be a great offer for your sisters or your husband.

Let us look at a few examples:

Offer your sisters a voucher for a few hours of childcare for her to enjoy a date night with her own lord.

Offer your lord an in-home date night, complete with candle lights, his favorite meal, no kids, and a special outfit. 😊

Is your Prophet working hard on double duty for The Highest and at work?

Consider a voucher to a licensed massage therapist or chiropractor.

Pedicures, and lunch dates are usually welcomed from your sisters.

Hopefully, these examples have your wheels turning for great ideas for your friends and family.

Consider Their Occupation & Interests

Sticking with practicality, I always suggest considering your friend's or husband's occupation or interests when selecting a gift.

For Example:

A fisherman: new bait, and fish scaling knife

A Nurse: Comfortable work shoes and compression socks

A Seamstress: Multipack of colourful threads

A Trucker: An AC plugin cooler

A Makeup Enthusiast: New quality brushes

A Prophet: Anointing Oil Dispenser (Glass etc.)

An avid Reader: Kindle Subscription

And the list of examples goes on.

Make everyday items a gift

Does your lord need new shirts that you all would have to buy anyway? Collect the new shirts, pre-fringe them all and present them in a gift bag.

Your sister just received a new car? A bag of car air fresheners, wheel shine, emergency cones, and dash wipes are both useful and thoughtful... and at Dollar Tree.

New job? Paperclips, stapler, notebook, a planner, name badge holder, etc. all useful and thoughtful and inexpensive

These items are all about packaging and timing. Think about the gift baskets you see in the stores. They are full of regular items just wrapped beautifully. A bow and cellophane wrap can take you a long way here.

Consider a basket of all their favorites: snacks, fragrances, gift cards, etc. things you all usually spend money on, just concentrated at one time in one basket, how thoughtful.

Big Impact, Small Budget

We are all one big happy family here & we want to get something for everyone, but it does not quite fit our budget. What do we do?

Any husband is pleased with a wife who can allocate funds well.

Proverbs 31:11 ¹The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

Ecclesiasticus 18:25 Humble thyself before thou be sick, and in the time of sins shew repentance.

My favorite place to make a big impact on a small budget is Dollar Tree. This one may take a little creativity and DIY (do it yourself). Where everything is \$1, try an item from Dollar Tree that you can buy in bulk and give away to the many smiling faces you love in the congregation.

Example: Buy 100 candles and print stickers that say “Mathew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

Pinterest is your friend here. Pinterest is an online visual discovery search engine board. Search subjects such as “Dollar Tree Gifts”, “DIY Gifts” “Cheap Bulk Gifts” “DIY Candle Stickers” etc.

Do not get lost in the Thank You’s and attention

As we give, let us remember not to get caught up in the expected gratitude, attention, and glory of giving, nor become envious of the gifts given or received by others.

Colossians 3:23-24 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; ²⁴ Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

Galatians 5:26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.