

December 2006

## The Gift of Caring

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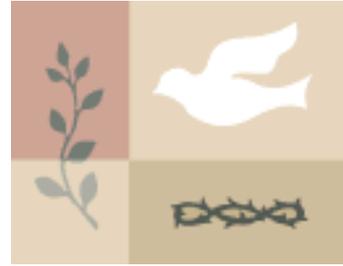
### Recommended Citation

Tomaselli, Hope (2006) "The Gift of Caring," *Verbum*: Vol. 4 : Iss. 1 , Article 8.  
Available at: <https://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/verbum/vol4/iss1/8>

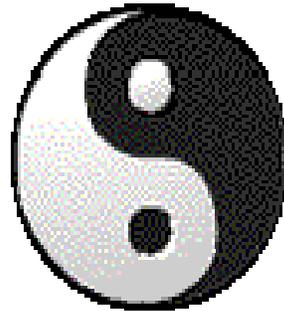
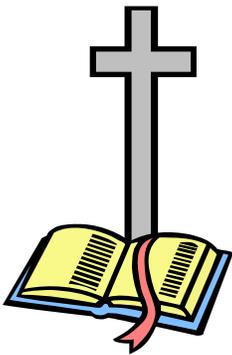
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## The Gift of Caring



# Living with Other Gods



2006

# Winners





The Gift Of Caring By: Hope Tomaselli

There once was a homeless man on the street,  
Cold and lonely on Christmas day.  
The snow was beginning to numb his feet,  
And he needed a place to stay.

He knocked on the door of a modest house;  
A family answered the door.  
Asked the man, "Could you spare a room tonight?  
For I can walk no more."

The family at once let the stranger in  
And invited him to dine.  
The man was grateful as they bowed their heads  
And prayed over food and wine.

When the food had been consumed,  
(They could eat not one bite more),  
They invited the man to the living room –  
And what a surprise was in store!

The man stared at the Christmas tree,  
Lighted all aglow,  
And at the presents underneath,  
Wrapped up tight with bows.

The family asked the man  
If he would sing a Christmas song,  
The man froze up in such a way  
They thought something was wrong.

The man wore such an odd expression,  
The family asked him why.  
The man said, "I'm so sorry  
But I am a Jewish guy."

The husband of the family said,  
"That is no problem here.  
If you don't wish to sing, we will,  
And you can lend your ears."

The man sat in a comfy chair,  
So relieved he sighed;  
And as the family started to sing,  
A tear came to his eye.

He was so grateful sitting there,  
The family was so kind.  
Their acceptance of his religion  
Gave him peace of mind.

And when the family stopped their song,  
The man knew what to do;  
Said he, "You've shared so much with me,  
Now let me share with you."

The man reached in his pocket  
As the kids' eyes shined with joy,  
And out he pulled a dreidel saying,  
"This is a Jewish toy."

The family spent the next hour  
Learning the dreidel game,  
And despite different religions,  
On that day they were the same.