

'Twas the Month Before Christmas

Pam Ferris entered the Crystal Coast–NC Leadership Council with a garland of tinsel draped about her shoulders, arms loaded with bags and boxes. Quickly placing her parcels behind her she began to recite the following poem. As she progressed, she added lights around her neck (yes, she plugged them in); then, put on an apron and picked up a bowl which she stirred vigorously throughout the remainder of the poem.

'Twas the month before Christmas
And all through the town
Not a sign of the Christ Child
Was anywhere to be found.

All the people were busy
With Christmastime chores
Like decorating, and baking,
And shopping in stores.

No one sang, "Away in a manger,
No crib for a bed."
Instead, they sang of Santa
Dressed-up in bright red.

Mama watched Martha Stewart,
While Dad took a nap.
Then hour upon hour
Oh, the presents they'd wrap.

Then what from the TV
Did they suddenly hear?
'Cept an ad which told
Of a big sale at Sears.

So away to the mall
They flew like a flash;
Buying many things on credit,
And a few things with cash!

And, as they made their way home
From their trip to the mall,
Did they think about Jesus?
Oh, no ... not at all.

Their lives were so busy
With their Christmastime things.
No time to remember or worship
Christ Jesus, the King.

There were presents to wrap
And cookies to bake.
How could they stop to remember
The One who died for their sake?

Why, to pray to the Savior...
They had no time to stop.
Because more time was needed to
"Shop 'til they dropped!"

To Walmart! To K-mart!
To Target! To Penney's!
To Belk and to Zales!
With a quick lunch at Denny's.

From big stores downtown
To the stores at the mall
They dashed away, dashed away,
To shop at them all!

And up on the roof,
There arose such a clatter
As grandpa hung icicle lights
With his new stepladder.

He hung lights that flashed.
He hung lights that twirled.
Without giving one thought
To the Light of the World.

Christ's eyes ... see how they twinkle!
And His Spirit ... how merry!
Christ's love ... how enormous!
All our burdens to carry!

So instead of being so busy,
Stressed out and uptight.
Put Christ first at Christmas,
And celebrate it right!

Merry Christmas!