



Cherish Boxes provide children with age appropriate gifts to occupy them during the extremely vulnerable time of entering foster care.

JESUS FAMOUS

WHAT ARE CHERISH BOXES?

Every month, dozens of children are brought to Cherish Receiving Center in Monterey County as they await foster care placement. They have either been just removed from their home or are in transition between foster homes. Cherish Boxes are a tangible act of love for children who often lose so much in the transition from home to home. These boxes are filled with things just for them, that they can keep with them permanently.

6 EASY STEPS TO MAKE A CHERISH BOX

1. **Get a box:** Decide which age range and gender you'd like to make a box for. Purchase a photo storage box (11" x 4.5" x 8" in size, please no shoe boxes) available at stores like Michael's.

2. **Fill it:** Include all ESSENTIAL items and then enough EXTRA items to fill the box. See other side for suggested items.

3. **Write a note:** Include a **one-sentence** handwritten note that speaks comfort over the child receiving the box, such as "You are loved", "You are important", "Packed with love" etc. (because these are given to the children through county workers, the notes

cannot include religious or scripture references).

4. **Label it:** Tear off the Cherish Box label located on the top of this card, mark the gender, language, and age group, and tape it on the narrow side of the box.

5. **Seal it:** Place a rubberband around your box.

6. **Return it:** Bring your box to the church office Tuesday-Friday, 9am-5pm, or to the Welcome Center on Sundays. If you have any questions at all, please contact our coordinator, Anne, at anne@calvary.com.





Boy Girl

English Español

2-5 years 10-12 years

6-9 years 13-17 years



WHAT TO PACK:

Below is a simple guide for filling a Cherish Box. Please include **everything** listed under ESSENTIALS and then **enough** EXTRAS to fill the box. Be creative and have fun!

2-5
yrs

Essentials:

Coloring book, crayons, small stuffed animal, toddler-sized toothbrush, toothpaste, small flashlight (with batteries), socks, nightlight.

Extras:

Toys: cars, balls, etc.
Arts & Crafts: playdough, stickers, etc.
Hygiene: hairbrush, fun band-aids, etc.
Other: small blanket, sippy cup, etc.

6-9
yrs

Essentials:

Coloring book or drawing pad, markers or crayons, toothbrush and toothpaste, small flashlight (with batteries), socks, nightlight.

Extras:

Toys: small stuffed animals, etc.
Arts & Crafts: pens, stickers, etc.
Hygiene: hairbrush, etc.
Other: small blanket, books, etc.

10-12
yrs

Essentials:

Blank journal or drawing pad, markers or colored pencils, toothbrush and toothpaste, small flashlight (with batteries), socks, nightlight.

Extras:

Toys: playing cards, yo-yo, etc.
Arts & Crafts: pens, bead sets, etc.
Hygiene: hairbrush, lip balm, etc.
Other: books, small bag/purse, etc.

13-17
yrs

Essentials:

Blank journal or drawing pad, colored pencils, toothbrush and toothpaste, socks, small flashlight (with batteries), or nightlight.

Extras:

Toys: playing cards, ear phones, etc.
Hygiene: hairbrush, lip balm, etc.
Other: gift cards, sunglasses, gum, stress-ball, books, small bag/purse, etc.

Please DO NOT include: Religious items, violent action figures or toys, used items, sharp, dangerous items, holiday or seasonal items, hygiene items that contain alcohol (hand sanitizer, mouthwash, etc.)