

GRATEFUL HEART

This week our nation celebrates the holiday of Thanksgiving. It is still one of those holidays that is not cluttered with commercialization. It is a time to get together with family and friends and enjoy the food and fellowship. It most likely means hours and hours of cooking for some. There are others who spend the day helping those who are less fortunate. All of these are good ways to spend the holiday. We should always keep in mind those who are civil servants, medical personnel and others who have to work on this day and other holidays.

When you begin to consider what God's word says about being thankful, you begin to realize how serious it is that we develop this attitude on a daily basis. When you read Colossians 3:1-15 and Ephesians 4:22-32, you quickly realize that the attitude of gratitude is not a suggestion, it is a firm instruction (a command) given by God for his children. Paul goes on to say in Ephesians 5 that our walk needs to be that of giving of thanks (Ephesians 5:1-4).

When we think about the lack of being thankful, perhaps our mind goes back to Romans 1. Paul stated on that occasion, *"Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations and their foolish heart was darkened"* (Romans 1:21). The end result of this attitude is found in Romans 1:32. Have a grateful heart. *L. Cole*

IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS

On November 23, Americans will once again celebrate a national day of thanksgiving. It is a day set aside to give thanks unto God for our great heritage and the many blessings He bestows upon us. For many, Thanksgiving is simply a day off from work. It is a time to overeat, enjoy parades and ball games, and visit friends and relatives. However, for the child of God, every day is truly Thanksgiving Day. Paul admonished, In everything give thanks (1 Thessalonians 5:18). For what does the child of God give thanks?

Give thanks for God's goodness and mercy (1 Chronicles 16:34).

Give thanks for God's holiness (Psalm 30:4).

Give thanks for God's creation (Psalm 75:1).

Give thanks for God's deeds (Psalm 105:1).

Give thanks for God's righteous judgment (Psalm 119:62).

Give thanks for our food (Matthew 15:36).

Give thanks for the body and blood of Jesus (Matthew 26:26-28).

Give thanks for the victory found in Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:57).

Give thanks for the care and compassion of others (2 Corinthians 8:16).

Give thanks for God's unspeakable gift – Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 9:15).

Give thanks for our brethren (Ephesians 1:16).

Give thanks for all things (Ephesians 5:20).

Give thanks for the church (Colossians 1:12-13).

Give thanks for all men (1 Timothy 2:1).

Give thanks for civil authorities (1 Timothy 2:2).

Give thanks for the hope of heaven (Revelation 11:16-17).

Surely we can think of countless other blessings for which we should give thanks.

These are just a few of those mentioned in the Holy Scriptures. As His children, let us begin today thanking God for His many favors.

– Barry M. Grider, HTH, 11/20/16, Adapted

WHY ARE YOU HERE?

Henry Ward Beecher was a renowned 19th century preacher. He actually achieved "celebrity status" in his day. People would flock to hear him preach when he came to their community. On one occasion in Brooklyn, NY, many curiosity seekers arrived at Plymouth Church to hear the famous Henry Ward Beecher speak. However, to their dismay, Thomas Beecher, Henry's brother, rose to deliver the message that day instead. When people came to the realization that the renowned Beecher would not be speaking, they arose from their seats and headed for the doors.

Unmoved by what was happening, Thomas Beecher quickly brought things into perspective when he said, "Those of you who came here today to worship Henry Ward Beecher are excused at this time. However, those of you who came to worship God, please remain seated." Nothing more needed to be said.

Sometimes I think we may need to be reminded that when we assemble on the Lord's day, it's not to be entertained, impressed, or "wowed" by the speaker, but to worship God. When our mindset views the preacher as a the participant, and ourselves as his audience, we've lost focus. Actually, we are all the participants, and God is the audience. Instead of judging the preacher's eloquence, critiquing the song leader's selection and tempo, and timing the length of the closing prayer, it might be more helpful to consider how God is judging our performance. Give it some thought.

Steve Higginbotham, MercEmail, 10/13

**THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE
WORSHIP—SUNDAY AM
NOV 26, 2017**

Co-Coordinator George Clay
Announcements Dallas Eddie

Scriptures Reading.. I Pet 4:11 . . .Austin Clay
Song Leader Steve Anderson
Opening Prayer.Jacky Carver, Sr.

Lord's Supper-Preside: Robert Hackett
Serve:, Mitchell Brooks, Ethan Leonard
Justin Draper, Roger Draper,
Closing Prayer Glen Reece

Greeter— Dianna Dillehay & Susanne
Greeter— Glen & Patsy Reece
Greeters: Please be here to greet 20 minutes before services.

Count Offering. Dallas Eddie
.Kaleb Bush
AM Sermon—Silence of the Scriptures
PM Sermon— Fourth Sunday Singing

WORSHIP---SUNDAY---6:00 PM

Announcements Dallas Eddie
Song Leader. Steve Anderson
Scripture Reading...Psa. 95:1-3. . . . Austin Clay

Opening PrayerMitchell Brooks
Lord's SupperJacky Carver, Sr.
. Gavin Spurlin
Closing Prayer Roger Draper

BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY---7:00 PM

Announcement. Dallas Eddie
Song Leader George Clay
First Prayer.Jacky Carver, Sr.
Opening Prayer Glen Reece
Closing Prayer Justin Draper

Prepare Communion for NOV
Linda Hackett

MONTROSE BULLETIN BOARD

NURSING HOME:

Opal Agee-Kindred
Pearl Anderson—Knollwood Manor,
Carolyn Clay—Knollwood Manor
Kasel Dillehay—Overton Co. Nursing Home

THOSE ON THE SICK LIST;

W. A. Gibbs, Gladys Bowling,
Jimmie Faye Cole, Sawyer Cole,
Ramelle Cole, Carolyn Lankford,
Diana Preston, Jere Andrews,
Shirley Hailey

OUR RECORD OF LOVE FOR CHRIST

11/19/17

Wednesday.....	38
Worship Sunday AM	72
Bible Study Sunday AM	60
Daily Bible Readers	27
Worship Sunday PM	48

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Dec. 3rd.** Men’s Business Meeting
- Dec. 3rd.** Open House at Coles
- Dec. 13th.** Prepare Christmas Bags
- Dec. 21st.** Budget Meeting

READING SCHEDULE FOR NOV

- 21 I Cor. 3-5
- 22 I Cor. 6-8
- 23 I Cor. 9-11
- 24 I Cor. 12-14
- 25 I Cor. 15-16
- II Cor. 1-2
- 26 II Cor. 3-6
- 27 II Cor. 7-9
- 28 II Cor. 10-12
- 29 II Cor. 13;
Gal. 1-2
- 30 Gal. 3-5