## SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

[Rev. Gene Henderson & edits by Pastor Pier]

It has been a busy week for most of us. If you're like me, your busy was second hand. Leah was very busy, and I was on my toes ready to help when asked. We had guests at our Thanksgiving that was a privilege and further busy. But my thinking and her thinking are not always aligned. Our family sometimes doesn't think like we do. They may consider us lazy, inconsiderate, or even a bit mentally deficient. They or maybe our wife might think, "how many of these dinners have we done? Have you been here for all these dinners? How can you possibly NOT know what you're supposed to do?! Do I have to tell you everything?" Of course, that maybe what you're thinking, not what she or they really say."

Two hours after our Thanksgiving dinner, you're sitting at the table quietly waiting. Your wife or your daughter or any family member says, "This is all so wonderful! We're glad everyone came. This is what Thanksgiving is all about: family and friends gathering to give thanks to God for His blessings."

Your Pastor's imagination running wild again for none of that happened. At least, not at your family. The real purpose here is to remind us that the women who prepare and serve the meal pour so much of themselves into whatever they make that they want us to be genuinely grateful. I'm so old, I remember my grandmother, my aunts, my mother, my wife, and my daughter all preparing Thanksgiving meals. Since I've survived them all (so far), I have a sincere appreciation for their efforts. So do you.

Here's a head start - let them know. This Christmas season which starts now should become a time of true gratitude towards all those who surround us making our like better. Paul gives us good advice in Colossians 2:6-7 (Amplified Bible):

As you have therefore received Christ, [even] Jesus the Lord, [so] walk (regulate your lives and conduct yourselves) in union with and conformity to Him. Have the roots [of your being] firmly and deeply planted [in Him, fixed and founded in Him], being continually built up in Him, becoming increasingly more confirmed and established in the faith, just as you were taught, and abounding and overflowing in it with thanksgiving.

The best gift we can give this Christmas is to be genuinely grateful to all who surround us!

Welcome!

December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024



"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."

## **SERVICES**

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM Unity in Prayer & Youth: 6:00 - 7:00 PM Wednesday - Bible Study: 7:00 PM; Kid's Club Prayer  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour before services

## SERMON NOTES

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



*Wednesday Bible Study* – we continue our study of the Rapture of the church.

*Flagging Class* – Wednesdays, at 6:00 PM prior to our Bible study. Special thanks to all the participants of this praise ministry.

*Ladies Christmas Party* – Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. here at the church. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the foyer so we can plan. For any questions, please see Caroline Zeyak.

*Christmas Program Rehearsal* – Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 A.M. here at the church. Please be on time!

*Christmas Program* – Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 A.M. Let's invite family and friends to enjoy what the Lord will do.

*Kid's Club Christmas Party* – Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

*Midweek Bible Study* – December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day will be cancelled so all can enjoy celebrating Jesus' Birthday together.

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