

## TIME OF REFLECTION

[Pastor Gene Henderson edited by Pastor Pier]

Let the teaching of Christ live in you richly. Use all wisdom to teach and instruct each other by singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Colossians 3:16 [CEV]

Thanksgiving has got to be one of the most underrated holidays in America. Once Halloween has finished and the Jack-O-Lanterns are all put away, the Christmas frenzy takes over. Holiday specials start playing on TV, stores decorate their aisle with snowflakes and mistletoes, and people take the chance to hang Christmas lights while there's no snow. It's not all that surprising really; the Christmas spirit can be pretty infectious, it's also a lot harder to profit off a holiday that emphasizes thankfulness.

I feel like this is how many people, even Christians, *treat the idea of thankfulness* in general. I don't know about you, but I'm much faster at coming up with a list of things I want for Christmas than a list of things I'm grateful for. It's also pretty easy for our prayers to become filled with phrases like *"God, please give me..."*, *"God, please help me..."*, or *"God, I need..."* We get so tied up in what God can do for us, how Christ can impact our lives, that we forget how to be thankful for what we have. Luckily, God is good at reminding us what's important.

A few months ago, a businessman was leaving for work in the morning when he was greeted by his apartment's cleaning lady.

*"Good morning,"* she said, *"How you doing?"* He thought about the question for a second and, trying to sound funny, said, *"Well, it's a Wednesday."*

*"Now, now,"* she said, *"It's a good day. Do you know why? Because you're walking, and you're breathing."*

You can't really argue with that, can you?

So, this Thanksgiving, amidst the mayhem of football games and turkey dinners, I encourage you to take a moment to pray and simply thank Christ for the things in your life. Whether is for home, family, or a hot meal, remember to give thanks, for God is good.

We can choose to see things to be thankful for or things to be sad and depressed about. What we choose will depend on our knowledge of the fact that God is in control and loves us.

**Enjoy God's blessings this Thanksgiving and be thankful!**

# Happy Thanksgiving!

November 20, 2022



*"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: 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM;

Youth & Kid's Club

Prayer ½ hour before services

## THEOLOGICAL SEED

At that time, you will say, "Our LORD, we are thankful, and we worship only You. We will tell the nations how glorious You are and what You have done. Because of Your wonderful deeds we will sing Your praises everywhere on earth."

Isaiah 12:4-5 (CEV)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Wednesday Bible Study** – John 17. Come as we learn how Jesus prays for His own.

Kid's Club & Youth in the basement, learning about the Lord.

**Special Prayer Request** – we are believing God for the finances for a new air conditioning and heating unit for the sanctuary. Please pray with us.

**Flagging Practice** – every Wednesday at 6 pm, here at the church.

**Women's Ministry** – 3rd Friday of every month at 6:00 PM – December 16<sup>th</sup>, annual Christmas party.

**Men's Ministry** – 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month at 7:00 pm, here at the church – December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Shoebbox Gift** – boxes are due today. Please leave them here in the foyer. You may bring them to the church this afternoon until 4 and this evening after 6.

**Thanksgiving Fellowship Dinner** – please join us downstairs for a time of fellowship and thanksgiving to God.

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## SERMON NOTES

### BLESSING OUT OF CRISIS

**TEXT:** 1 Peter 1:1-9

One translation puts it this way: "putting to proof \_\_\_\_\_". Acts 20:19; James 1:2-3

\_\_\_\_\_ is the root cause of all murmuring and complaining.

**I. GOD'S \_\_\_\_\_** – 2 Peter 2:9; 1 Corinthians 10:13

God does not want to \_\_\_\_\_ us in our trials.

He doesn't get any glory from \_\_\_\_\_ His children – but from the \_\_\_\_\_ of our testing!

There is only one way to \_\_\_\_\_ our trials – and that is by \_\_\_\_\_ the test.

He wanted His people to acknowledge their \_\_\_\_\_. Psalm 107:22; 116:17; 95:2; 69:30-31; 100:4

Their transgressions for the whole year were being \_\_\_\_\_, or "\_\_\_\_\_". Leviticus 16:21-22

A place from which it wouldn't be able to \_\_\_\_\_.

"Not only are our sins \_\_\_\_\_ – but they are \_\_\_\_\_ from us!" Isaiah 53:4; 1 Peter 2:24; Micah 7:19

**II. OUR EXIT: \_\_\_\_\_ WITH THANKSGIVING!**

Christ has \_\_\_\_\_ out all our transgressions, \_\_\_\_\_ to be remembered against us. Hosea 14:2

Our \_\_\_\_\_ of thanksgiving is to be made with the two goats we bring – an offering of our \_\_\_\_\_, or voices. Hebrews 13:15

**III. POWERFUL \_\_\_\_\_ – JONAH** – Jonah 2:3-7, 9-10

Simply put, he \_\_\_\_\_ the test! Philippians 4:6; Colossians 2:6-7  
How we \_\_\_\_\_ in a crisis determines our walk with God thereafter.

When we have no place to turn, turn to \_\_\_\_\_.