

# Grace & Truth Bible Church

November 2022

## Thankfulness

*Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Ephesians 5:20*

Someone defined the home as “the place where we are treated the best — and complain the most!” How true this is! “My father never talks to me unless he wants to bawl me out or ask about my grades,” a teenager once told me. “After all, a guy needs some encouragement once in a while!” Marriage counselors tell us that “taking each other for granted” is one of the chief causes of marital problems. **Being thankful to God for each other is a secret of a happy home**, and it is the Holy Spirit who gives us the grace of thankfulness.

How does a grateful heart promote harmony in the home? For one thing, the sincerely grateful person realizes that he is enriched because of others, which is a mark of humility. **The person who thinks the world owes him a living is never thankful for anything.** He thinks he is doing others a favor by permitting them to serve him. The thankful heart is usually humble, a heart that gladly acknowledges God as the “Giver of every good and perfect gift” (James 1:17). Like Mary’s gift to Jesus in John 12, gratitude fills the house with fragrance.

To be sure, all of us are grateful for some things at some special occasions; but Paul commanded his readers to be thankful for all things at all times. This exhortation in itself proves our need of the Spirit of God, because in our own strength we could never obey this commandment. **Can we really be thankful in times of suffering, disappointment, and even bereavement?** Keep in mind that Paul was a prisoner when he wrote those words, yet he was thankful for what God was doing in him and for him. When a Christian finds himself in a difficult situation, he should immediately give thanks to the Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, by the power of the Spirit, to keep his heart from complaining and fretting. **The devil moves in when a Christian starts to complain, but thanksgiving in the Spirit defeats the devil and glorifies the Lord.**

W. Wiersbe

*In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you 1 Thessalonians 5:20*

## November Evening Services

|                     |                                      |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| November 6          | Communion – Erik Lacksonen           |
| November 13 AM & PM | Missionaries Jon & Denielle Johnson  |
| November 20         | Pastor DeMarte                       |
| November 23         | Thanksgiving Eve Service & Pie Night |
| November 27 AM      | Daniel Trygstad                      |
| November 27         | Potluck after morning service        |

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**Greetings!** In November we are reminded to thank Lord for our many blessings. We remember that *every good and perfect gift is from above* (James 1:17), and therefore, *we serve the Lord with gladness and come into is presence with singing.* (Psalm 100:2).

**Jon & Denielle Johnson** will be with us on Sunday, November 13 to share their ministry in Brazil. Jon will speak in the morning, and they will do a presentation in the evening.

**Our annual Thanksgiving Eve Service** will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> followed by a pie social in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome to share a special number, a testimony of thankfulness, a reading, a poem, Scripture, etc.. Come on out, and bring a friend!

**We will have a Thanksgiving Dinner at the church on November 24<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm.** This is to open to anyone who would like to attend. We will put a sign up sheet out for those attending. Let Connie know if you'd like to help.

**Christmas program parts are being handed out.** Parents: please work with your children and help the learn their parts, songs, and verses.

**Choir practice** for the Christmas program will be held each Sunday at 5PM.

## October Donations

- Missions - \$2705.00
- General - \$12803.69
- 2B Free - \$300.00
- Building - \$700.00
- Kyle Bowers – \$400.00
- Rene Hurtado – \$435.00
- Emillio and Lily Lopez - \$100.00
- Phil DeMarte - \$100.00
- Arnie Johnson – 100.00

## November Verses

(Psalms 103:1) Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, *bless* His holy name!

(Psalms 103:2) Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits:

(Psalms 103:3) Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases,

(Psalms 103:4) Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,

(Psalms 103:5) Who satisfies your mouth with good *things*, So *that* your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

