



Thanksgiving

February 2018

"I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth." (Psalm 34:1). D. L. Moody said: "You cannot remember all His benefits; just don't forget them all." **We thank you all for your continued prayer support and gifts. You have been so faithful and such an important part of this ministry. We could not do it without you.**

Lord, we realize that we have tended to thank you mainly on special days, but we want to praise you more. With this in mind, we offer you sincere thanks.

Thank you Lord for leading us to know you personally, as we know Jesus Christ as our Savior, Lord and Life. We want to appreciate You more in the future than we have in the past. We thank You for salvation so rich and so free. You are truly awesome, holy, and faithful. We never want to live without You.

We cannot set people free for this can only be done by You. We thank you that Heaven is constantly filled with praise, and that there will not be any complaining there, just a great deal of thanksgiving. Our desire is to bless You more and not forget all Your benefits. You tell us that those of us who offer You praise glorifies You. In fact, You desire everything that has breath to praise You (Psalm 150:6). If prayer is not mixed with praise, then our prayer is self-centered. He who thanks but with his lips, thanks but in part; the full, the true thanksgiving comes from the heart.

We live in ungrateful times, children no longer thank their parents for providing shelter, food and clothing. Parents no longer thank employers for providing them a job. Church members often fail to thank those who serve them with sacrifice and faithfulness. The Scriptures say: "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus" (1 Thess. 5:18).

Why do we give thanks?

1. Praise brings God glory.
2. It brings brokenness which is the cure for pride.
3. It overcomes worry.
4. It cures discouragement.
5. It overcomes selfishness.
6. It remedies division in the church.
7. It brings conviction upon the lost.

Before a Christian wedding, the groom was drowned, and the bride wrote the following, which became a song: "Give me a calm, a thankful heart, from every murmur free; the blessings of thy grace impart, and make me live to Thee. Let the sweet hope that thou art mine, my life and death attend; thy presence thro' my journey shine, and crown my journey's end.

Make sure you hem your blessings with praise, lest they unravel. Oh God, you have given us so much, give us one thing more – a grateful heart. Thanksgiving is more than a duty, or even a privilege; it is good therapy.

Together for His glory,

Paul & Joyce

Thank you so much!

Paul & Joyce Travis

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Because of all the different facets of our ministry, please pray that God will grant us strength and endurance as He expresses His life through us. It is very difficult to take pictures of all that we would like to share. We have chosen to show photos of our trip to New York State. We spoke in Horse Heads NY, which included giving our testimonies, a few examples of how the Lord has set people free - assisting Dan Studt, who is the NE Regional Director for FICM. Top two photos show Journey Center Church and the new group assembled for their first event. There are six photos of Paul's family. The last two photos show our first great-grandson and one of the churches where Paul spoke.

