

Pastor's Pen

Giving Thanks!

***I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;
I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.***

Psalm 9:1

How was your Thanksgiving? Did you celebrate it with family and friends? Did you serve the needy? What did you give thanks for? Every year in the United States we set aside the fourth Thursday of November to celebrate Thanksgiving. President Abraham Lincoln was the first US president to officially declare the festival as the last Thursday in November. The date was set in stone by President Franklin D Roosevelt in 1939 and approved by Congress in 1941.

However, Christians don't need a specific date to give thanks. We should be giving thanks to our God every day. In the passage, Psalm 9:1, David is thanking God for Israel's victory over other nations who had attacked them. This passage is a reminder to us to give thanks to the victories God has given us in our own lives. Even in the midst of what we may see as defeats, we can give God thanks during our darkest hour. James understood this well; "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing (James 1:1-4)". Being thankful to God does not depend on how we feel or our circumstances.

Next time you have trouble thanking God start with your salvation and then recount all of His wonderful deeds He has done in your life.

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

The great means of sanctification!- Jared Waterbury

**"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your Word is truth."
John 17:17**

The Scriptures are the great means of sanctification. This is the charm which so much attracts the pious heart. That heart is not insensible to the elegance of scriptural style, nor indifferent to its bold and beautiful imagery — but these are not the principal attractions. The Bible is the Word of God! It convinces of sin. It stimulates to duty. It rouses from sluggishness. It warns against danger. It unfolds the character of God. It reveals the way of salvation. It delineates the providence of God. It presents the Lamb of God slain for our transgressions. It communicates sweet strains of spiritual devotion. It brings into view a bright and eternal reward. It discloses the wounds of our nature, and offers the healing balm. In short, it embodies all that a Christian in his pilgrimage can need. It is his only chart through this tempestuous life.

In trouble — it is his consolation.
In prosperity — it is his monitor.
In difficulty — it is his guide.

Amid the darkness of death, and while descending into the shadowy valley — it is the day-star that . . . illuminates his path, makes his dying eye bright with hope, and cheers his soul with the prospect of immortal glory!

Quote of the Week

"True repentance will entirely change you; the bias of your souls will be changed, then you will delight in God, in Christ, in His Law, and in His people."
-George Whitefield

You feel as if you were conversing with God. You breathe a heavenly atmosphere. The soul is bathed in celestial waters. It imbibes a sweetness and a composure which shed over it unearthly attractions.

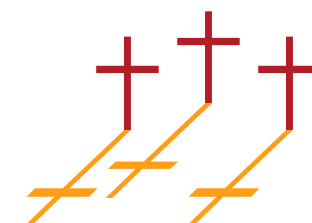
To this fountain of light and life — let us then daily resort. Here is the healing influence. Here is the pool of Bethesda. Here abounds consolation for the afflicted. Here hope dwells to cheer and to guide. Bind this precious volume about your neck — write it on the tablets of your heart!

It will prove to be . . . your shield in conflict, your guide in perplexity, your solace in adversity. If it has been faithfully studied in this life — it will afford themes for heavenly contemplation through eternity.

We should ever approach that Sacred Book with reverence. When we open the Sacred Volume — we listen to the voice of God. Should we not, therefore, give a reverential attention when Jehovah speaks? Should not our posture be that of the deepest humility and awe?

In the written Word, we have God speaking to us as to His children. Go, then, my friend, and diligently listen to the holy oracles. Search the Scriptures. Peruse them systematically. Make them your daily and nightly companions. And may their celestial influence be so infused into your soul — that you shall progressively lose the image of the earthly, and assume the image of the heavenly inhabitants.

Depend upon it, the closer attention you give to the Word — the more precious and interesting will it become, and the more rapidly will you grow in grace and holiness. The Word of God should grow constantly in your estimation, until you exclaim with David, "O how I love Your law; it is sweeter to my taste than honey and the honey-comb!"



Weekly Gatherings



Bible Classes

New Testament
Sunday School
Sunday Morning @ 9-9:45 & 10-10:45



Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM
Men's Zoom Bible Study



Job Study

Wednesdays @ 7PM
Teaching Series (Online Only)



Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study
AWANA @6:30PM-8PM



Service Times

Sunday Service 8:30AM & 10:30AM
Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 11/22/2020

General Offering6,476.73
Building Fund 1,008.60
Lottie Moon..... 250.00
Total 7,735.33

Attendance152
Online.....19

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
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Grace Harvest Baptist Church

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