

Christian Church of God Newsletter



The Pastor's Pen

November 2005
Volume 15, Issue 11

Happy Thanksgiving!

I love this time of year. Thanksgiving is one holiday created by man that I believe brings a smile to the face of God. A time to revel in family and shower the Giver of all good gifts with thanksgiving praise for all that He has graciously bestowed upon us.

Thankfulness and gratitude are too often overlooked as we frantically move from one appointment to the next, from one errand to the next and from one problem to the next. Certainly thankfulness is a trait that a disciple of Christ should exhibit year round, but I think it fitting to take a day and focus on the gift of gratitude.

In the Old Testament we find passage after passage of praises to God. The book of Psalms is packed with whole chapters on the praise of God and His power and glory. Here are just two examples:
"O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have

ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: All flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" —Psalm 8.

"Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. How awesome is the Lord Most High, the great King over all the earth! He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet. He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved. God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets. Sing praises to

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Special points of interest:

- *Reasons to Give Thanks*
 - *Following Christ*
 - *Itching Ears*
 - *Our sermons broadcast on KGRO Radio 9:05 AM Sunday. www.pan-tex.net*
- Our Home Page:*
www.christianchurchofgod.org

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C.E.P. Class

*Beginning
Nov. 5, 2005
11 a.m.*

**Christian
Church of God**

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**Life Principles for
Following Christ—**

a follow-up study to The Deity
of Jesus series.




Christian Education Program

*In the beginning was the
Word, and the Word was
with God, and the Word
was God.*

~ John 1:1, NIV



"I've stopped expecting you to make leaps of faith,
but it would be nice to see a hop now and then."

*On the
Lighter
Side*

PRAYER REQUESTS: "... The prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up: ... Pray for one another that you may be healed." — James 5:15-16.



- Audrey Booth:** Jeff's mother, congestive heart failure; recurrence of colitis.
- Sandy Booth:** Sister-in-law of Jeff Booth, ovarian cancer has returned. Is undergoing chemo; showing improvement.
- Amber & Dylan Clark:** Grandchildren of Betty Clark, cerebral palsy-Amber doing well following surgery.
- Vickie Crevoi:** Sister of Linda Booth, Chronic Progressive MS.
- Dan Copenhaver:** Brother of Betty Clark, disabled & prostate cancer. Improved following surgery.
- Leah Cryer:** Underwent surgery for removal of malignant colon tumor.
- Velvet Green:** Gary's wife, schizophrenia.
- Randy Gnessett:** Friend of Candace Seller, pulmonary hypertension, improved but still awaiting a lung transplant.
- Carrie McClennan:** Severe kidney problems requires frequent hospitalization.
- Dollie Meil:** Cerebral palsy.
- Tovayah Nelms:** Pray for mothers carrying babies with anencephaly.
- Patton Pugh:** Grandson of Bonnie Cryer, lungs & bones not fully developed; suspect hormone problem.
- Glenda Rankin:** Niece of Rudolph, Hodgkins Lymphoma, scheduled for bone marrow transplant in January.
- Ted Rankin:** Had surgery for herniated disks, slow recovery.
- Kathryn Scott:** Friend of the Baileys; severe MS, losing use of arms and swallowing ability.
- Katie Warnecke:** Friend of Shannon Stephen's family, Hodgkins Lymphoma - she is 12 years old.
- Joan Womble:** Friend of Bill Dufur, heart bypass and valve replacement..
- Bob Wertz:** Achalasia, a disorder of the esophagus. Currently stabilized .
- Beverly Wertz:** juvenile arthritis (and hip replacement) in remission for years, now reoccurring in knees, hips, wrist and shoulders. Sometimes happens after giving birth.

Rejoice with those who rejoice;
 mourn with those who mourn. Rom.
 12:15.

CELEBRATIONS

November

Birthdays

Jody Kirkpatrick	11/07
Marvin Cryer	11/15
Steve Cryer	11/18
Kathy Carlson	11/25

Anniversaries

Julia & J.D. McKinney	11/09
Roy & Francis Carlson	11/11
James & Reba Bailey	11/15



Christian Church of God

Praise the LORD.

Praise God in his
sanctuary;

praise him in his
mighty heavens.

PS 150:1



Christian Church of God
801 Quail Creek Drive
Amarillo, Texas 79124

www.christianchurchofgod.org

Peanuts for Life

Peanuts for Life



We hope you are being fed the bread of God's Word at the Christian Church of God. The sermons are intended to focus on living by the principles of Holy Scripture. Those who minister from the pulpit are sensitive to Paul's charge to the young evangelist, Timothy, in 2 Timothy 4: 2, "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."

So there are "seasonal" sermons, doctrinal sermons, how-to-live-by-God's-grace sermons, topical and character series sermons— sermons that don't cater to the "itching ears" syndrome extant in today's church world. The C. E. P. — Christian Education Program— is in sync with this same purpose.

We always miss you if or when you cannot attend with us. We miss your smiles and conversations and fellowship, but we are happy to serve you through our outreach program. Please let us know your ideas on how we can better serve you.

Your prayer requests are welcome, and your prayers for this ministry are needed.

Sometimes we feel like all we can offer you on life's trip is "peanuts"—but we will always serve them with a smile.

"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men." —Romans 14:17-18, NIV.



The Pastor's Pen continued

God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise. God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne. The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham, for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted." —Psalm 47.

In the New Testament, the Lord's Prayer begins and ends with praise. Matt 6:9 Our *Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 13For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.* (NKJV)

Offering praise is a form of godly thanksgiving. When we praise God for His omnipotence, when we praise God for His benevolence, when we praise God for His omniscience, and when we praise God for loving us so much that He sent His own son to His death so that we may live, we show our loving Father the gratitude and thankfulness that marks a Christian.

Paul continues with the theme of Godly gratitude:

"We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ... and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." —Colossians 1:3,12-14.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God." —2 Corinthians 1:3-4.

To give praise and thanksgiving to God is actually expected of us... a duty, and a responsibility:

"Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise - the fruit of lips that confess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." —Hebrews 13:15-16.

"Therefore, since we are receiving a king-

dom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our 'God is a consuming fire.'" — Hebrews 12:28-29.

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." —Philippians 3:15.

So on Thanksgiving, do more than eat turkey, watch football and endure the in-laws, give praise and thanks to our Great God & Savior, "... from whom all blessings flow." It's the least we can do.

Thanksgiving Blessings to You,

Jeff Booth

