

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	43
Attendance AM	88
Attendance PM	32
Wednesday PM	39

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Phil & Kim Tydings; Krubo Joploh; Otis & Glenna Adair; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stones Springs); Ron Robbins; Frank Cook

**Traveling:** Richard Melson, Jr. (work); Mozella Tate

**Prayers:**

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:** Johnson & Doneaan family (death of Marilyn Johnson)

**Birthdays: November**— 14 Ruby; 16 Tally Poole

**Anniversaries: November**— None

**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class December 7 @ 6:00 PM Lesson 1—"Sisters, I Need You"

**Potter Children's Home:** Coming Soon—Christmas Gift Shop

November 19	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Song Leader	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Lead Lord's Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 1	Ryan McGahee	Norris Cole
Server 2	James Grigsby	James Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Denzil Turner, III	Patrick Thomas
Sermon	Richard D Melson	Richard D Melson
Prayer for Responses	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Closing Prayer	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Announcements	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Greeter	John Bouse	John Bouse
Usher	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Usher		

**A.S.A.P. = Always Say A Prayer**

**"Pray without ceasing"**  
1 Thessalonians 5:17

**TO OUR VISITORS**

Our goal in the church of Christ is to be the New Testament church, which you can read about in the Bible. We invite you to observe our worship assemblies, the doctrine that is taught and the structure of the church organization. Make a close comparison with your "church" and the church of the Bible -- **The Church of Christ**. We also invite you to join us as we strive to be the church of the Bible and restore New Testament Christianity.

**Needmore Road church of Christ**  
2211 Needmore Road  
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998

Place  
Stamp  
Here

Visit our website at <https://www.needmoreroadcoc.com>



# THE EDIFIER

Volume 04

November 19, 2023

Issue 47

## A PSALM OF THANKSGIVING

Dan Jenkins

The book of Psalms is remarkable in so many ways. Many of the psalms come from the heart of a shepherd boy of Bethlehem and give us great insight into the very soul of a man after God's own heart.

One of the psalms repeats a phrase over and over. The psalmist said, "Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men" (Psa. 107:1, 8, 15, 21, 31). This phrase makes a natural division of five situations in this psalm where men should be filled with thanksgiving.

**Thanksgiving for redemption.** The first section (vss. 1-7) describes the times when God brought Israel from adversity and returned them to the land He promised Abraham's descendants. While it is true the sin of God's people often was the reason they were scattered, the psalm shows just how merciful God is toward His children. Those who were redeemed from the nations could so readily sing this psalm of thanksgiving.

**Thanksgiving for souls which have been refreshed.** In this section, the psalmist looks at the souls which have been brought low by the adversity around them. Their hearts are filled with darkness which is the result of ignoring God. They are bound up in affliction. Yet, when they cried out to God, He heard them. Their souls were filled with the blessing He gave to them. Their lives turned into joy because His mercy gave them what had been missing. The psalmist said, "Give thanks to the Lord for His wonderful works."

**Thanksgiving for deliverance to those who were at the gates of death.** This third section (vss. 15-20) parallels thoughts found in the previous section of those who were surrounded by distress. They were so burdened they could not even eat, yet when they cried out to the Lord, He heard them and saved them out of all their afflictions. "Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness."

**Thanksgiving from those who were tossed in the seas.** The psalmist turns his attention to those who sailed the seas and found themselves surrounded by tempestuous waves. As the waves lifted them to the heavens and then dropped them in the depths of the troughs, hope could so easily be lost. At their wit's end, they cried out to God, and He heard them, calmed the storms and brought them to safe havens.

**Thanksgiving from those who assemble to worship in the company of the elders.** The mercy of God is shown in the fruitful seasons where He waters the wilderness and feeds His people. Their crops increase and their herds multiply. He exalts the poor. Oh, that men would give thanks for all He does.

**Thanksgiving from our hearts.** The imagery in this psalm is different from what is around us, but the lesson is so obvious. God help us to give thanksgiving for all He does! ✍️

[www.needmoreroadcoc.com](http://www.needmoreroadcoc.com)  
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**Meeting Location:**  
2211 Needmore Rd  
Dayton, OH 45414

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday**  
Bible Study 9:30  
Worship 10:30 A.M.  
5:00 P.M.

1st Sunday No 5:00 PM

**Wednesday**  
Bible Study  
7:00 P.M.

**Preacher**  
Richard D. Melson  
937-321-3973  
[dr.rdmelson@yahoo.com](mailto:dr.rdmelson@yahoo.com)

**Ministers**  
All Members

- Supporting**
- Christian Courier
  - Southwest School of Bible Studies: Austin, TX
  - Memphis School of Preaching
  - Greater Midwest Lectureship
  - Potter Children's Home
  - Midwestern School of Preaching
  - Central Carolina School of Preaching

# Words of Wisdom For Youth ... 1 Timothy 4:12

## Three Ways Thanksgiving Should "Pay"

Do you have much for which to be thankful? Sometimes in moments of despair and distress, it is hard to keep our minds focused on the positive and the copious reasons that we have to be optimistic and thankful persons. Perhaps a look at a passage in Luke 17 can help us to be reminded of some simple steps we can take to be more thankful.

If you were a leper in the first century and someone healed you wholly and instantly, would you be thankful? There's no better word to describe the emotions that would flood your soul! Do you know what is even better than being healed of the horrible physical malady of leprosy? Being healed of the deadly spiritual malady of sin! The question for us is—do we respond like the nine unthankful lepers or like the one thankful leper in Luke 17?

In Luke 17, all ten lepers wanted the same thing of Jesus—"Have mercy on us!" (17:13). All ten lepers obeyed what Jesus told them to do—"Go, show yourselves to the priests" (17:14). All ten lepers received the same wonderful gift—they were "cleansed" (17:14). But, were all ten lepers thankful? One would think so, but the evidence is not there, because the response of thankfulness was not forthcoming. Except from "one of them" (17:15). What are three things that we can do, which this one thankful leper did, to be more thankful and to express our thankfulness to our Savior? Look at verses 15 and 16.

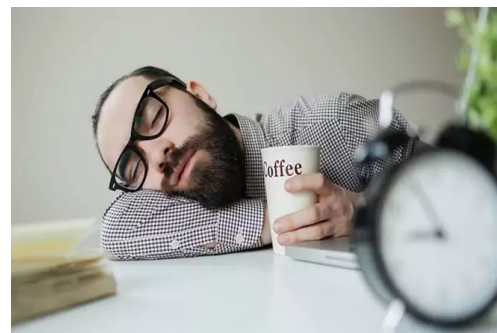
**First, pay attention.** The leper "saw that he was healed." The other lepers were apparently too busy and too selfish. Let us not become so busy with life and so selfish in our own desires that we forget to pay attention and intentionally notice each and every way that the Lord blesses us.

**Second, pay a visit.** The leper "returned" to Jesus. Sometimes we might be like the nine lepers—we probably notice the blessings but don't "return" to the Lord, from whom all blessings come, to acknowledge (at the very least) the fountain of all of these blessings. Let us spend more time with the Lord, and make sure that time is filled with thanking and not just asking.

**Third, pay homage.** The leper "with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks." Three things jump out: (1) he paid homage with a loud voice, (2) he paid homage with great humility, and (3) he paid homage over and over and over (as the present tense verbs emphasize). Let us seek to also overflow with exuberant praise to the one who overflows us with blessings.

Do you have much for which to be thankful? Even in times of despair and distress, let us turn back to our Savior!  
- David Sproule

## There's not a friend like ...

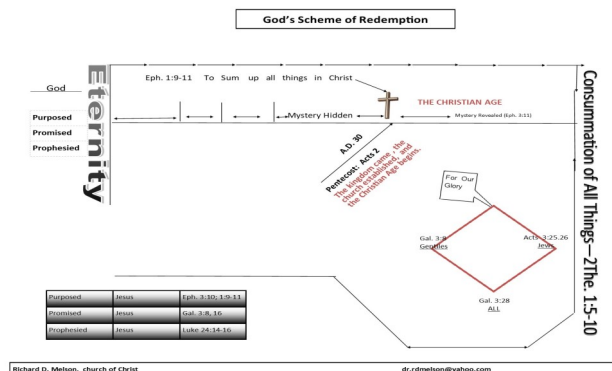


Do you have some good friends? Do you have the kind of friend that you can call or text any time and you know you'll get a quick response? Someone you pretty much can reach out to any time of the day or night? But, even that friend has other things to do—right? There are times that he/she needs to focus on "his/her own things"—right? And, you need to be respectful of that. Plus, at some point he/she has got to sleep—right?

Think carefully about the words of Psalm 121. "From whence comes my help?" Answer that question. Where do you turn when you need help? The answer of the psalmist: "My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth," for "He will not allow your foot to be moved." Do we have that kind of confidence in our God?

But then there's this! Before you read it, ask yourself, "Is God my friend?" The next words of the psalm say, "He who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, He...shall neither slumber nor sleep." Your heavenly Friend is ALWAYS open to you! He never gets drowsy! Is He your friend?.

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...



## Thanksgiving Requires Contentment

*"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content" (1 Tim. 6:6-8).*

These two concepts may not seem to be related, but my contention is that in order to be truly thankful and grateful, one MUST also be content. Contentment is the state of being pleased or satisfied with what one has or is. That is not to say that we can not aspire to have more or be more, but our entire focus shouldn't be so consumed with gaining more, more, more.

How many times have we seen children for instance, that have every conceivable gadget, (more than we ever imagined as kids), then act like they are deprived and mistreated if they are denied one more request. "That's not fair" they say, "I NEVER get anything I want"! Have we heard that before? What they are really doing is disregarding EVERY other kind gesture, courtesy, or gift that they currently have, because they are so focused on what they do not have.

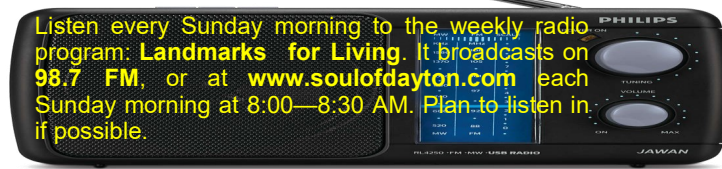
As adults, we also tend to focus too much attention on what we do not have rather than being thankful and content on the rich blessings that we have been so graciously given. If we are going to be thankful, content, and happy in this life, we must take our eyes off of what we do not have and focus our attention on what we do have.

Maybe it would serve us well to think about those less fortunate. For those of us disgruntled about how small or run down our house is, and how much we need a bigger and better one, think about the victims of Katrina and how much they would love our "misfortune".

Let us take stock of how much we have been blessed and concentrate on that. When we do that, the words of thanks that we express will have significantly for meaning!

-Dennis Hogan

- ☞ **Pantry Items:** Boxed Meal (e.g. Hamburger Helper); Canned Meals (Ravioli etc.); Pop Tarts
- ☞ **Potter Children's Home:** Christmas Gift Shop—see list for items.
- ☞ **Senior Lunch**—at Bob Evans 7400 Miller Lane 11:00 AM November 28



## NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: [www.wvbs.org](http://www.wvbs.org) ; [www.apologeticspress.org](http://www.apologeticspress.org) ; [www.searchtv.org](http://www.searchtv.org) ; <http://gbntv.org/> ; <http://kibbystreetcoc.org/index.php/let> (Let The Bible Speak); <https://fun1071.fm>; soulofdayton.com (8:00 AM)
- View: In Search of the Lord's Way— Dish- Sunday 7:00 am Channel 239; DirecTV Channel 307; GBN 7 PM
- Check out Tullstar Archives at <http://media.Tullstar.org> for lessons from faithful brethren.

## GOD'S PLAN FOR MAN'S SALVATION

*"Sirs, What must I do to be saved?" Acts 16:30*

- ◆ The Gospel Must Be Heard – John 6:44-45; Romans 10:17; John 8:32
- ◆ The Gospel Must Be Believed—John 8:24; Mark 16:16
- ◆ Sins Must Be Repented of – Luke 13:3,5; Acts 2:38
- ◆ Christ Must Be Confessed—Romans 10:10; Acts 8:37
- ◆ There Must Be Baptism (Immersion) for Remission (forgiveness) of Sins—Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21
- ◆ Christian Growth and Faithfulness—1 Peter 2:2; Revelation 2:10; 2 Peter 3:18