

The Lakeview Lamp

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” - Psalm 119:105

November 19, 2006

God Wants Us To Be Thankful

Greg Gwin

Throughout God's Word we are instructed to be thankful for His blessings. Here's a sampling of such verses:

1 Chronicles 16:8 – *“Give thanks unto the Lord, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the people.”*

Psalms 97:12 – *“Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:18 – *“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”*

Ephesians 5:20 – *“Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

Colossians 3:17 – *“And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him.”*

Have you ever wondered why God commanded us to be thankful? Does He need this? Is He somehow dependent upon us to voice our gratitude to Him? Is there something about His nature that craves this and can't do without it?

The answer to all these questions is, of course, **NO!** God is not dependent upon us in any way. He doesn't need us – we need Him! His instructions to us concerning giving thanks are like all of His commands – they are for **OUR** good. Observe: *“And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes ... for our good always” (Deut. 6:24).*

When we take time to thank God it serves to remind us of our total dependence upon Him. It helps us to realize our own weakness and frailty. It keeps us focused on Him and eternity. *“Let the peace of God rule in your hearts ... and be ye thankful” (Colossians 3:15).*



Keep the thanksgiving in Thanksgiving.

Pastor Appreciation

Frank Himmel

A local merchant designated October “pastor appreciation month” and offered a discount on clothing.

Many folks are confused about pastors. A preacher is not a pastor. *Pastor* is from a Latin word. It means a shepherd. In the New Testament the shepherds are those otherwise called *elders* or *presbyters* (**Acts 20:1 7, 28; 1 Pet. 5:1-2**). They are charged with watching the “flock” of God’s people. The preacher or evangelist or minister has a different role. He is to preach the gospel (**2 Tim. 4:2-4**). The only time the word *pastor* occurs in most English translations is in **Ephesians 4:11**, where it is clearly distinguished from an evangelist.

That said, our pastors surely do merit our appreciation, and not just this month. *“But we request of you brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction, and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work” (1 Th. 5:1 2-1 3).*

When did you last express that appreciation, either to God or to them? Why not tell them that you prize them and their work? Surely they would be encouraged to hear that. They would also appreciate your prayers on their behalf. Most of all, you can encourage them by cooperating with them, by living peacefully with others, by being faithful, and by growing in Christ.



“Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith...Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over your souls as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you” (Hebrews 13:7, 17).

“It is good to give thanks to the LORD and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High.” – Psalm 92:1

Family News

Jill & Eric Bansemer's baby **Sydney Elizabeth** remains in an incubator at Vanderbilt. She has been gaining weight (she was up to 2lbs 1oz this past week) and doing well. It will be a long time before she comes home from the hospital, but so far things are good.

Mary Burnett is now back at home. She was in the hospital again this past week for a little while. She went home Friday and is doing alright.

Connie Cobern had bronchitis but is better.

Metty Fain is in Room B2, 215 Highland Circle Dr, Portland TN 37148.

Elmo Ferrell is having several different, recurring problems.

Barry Fultz, who used to be a member here, is scheduled for major surgery on January 10th. He will then be unable to work for a little while.

Sandra Hunt is not doing well, but is not scheduled to return to the doctor anytime soon.

Michaela Nicholson has a bacterial infection with a high fever. Jennifer is at home with her.

Fran Pickens has had bronchitis.

Cotton Read continues to have problems breathing and cannot sleep well.

Laura Reed is doing fairly well.

Georgia Taylor continues to not do very well. She remains in assisted living. She appears to be about the same.

Ame White had surgery on her right wrist on Thursday. It went well and she continues to recover at home. She returns to the doctor on the 28th.

Robert Wray's eyes are much improved.

New Reports: **Allen Malone; Fred Newman.**

Out of town, traveling, or visiting: **Allen Malone** (remains in Vietnam); **Peggy Williams** (at Arlington for her father's service).

Lakeview church of Christ

132 New Shackle Island Road

P.O. Box 514

Hendersonville TN 37077

Building: 615-824-1376

www.BibleSaints.com

Bible Call: 615-824-1310

Troy Nicholson

trojenn@bellsouth.net

"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks" (1 Thes 5:16-18).