

THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD



Living Faith Chapel, Calgary (Solution Center)

JUNE 5, 2016

Word for the Week

COMING WITH AN ATTITUDE OF PRAISE

We thank the Almighty Father for His goodness towards us. He is always there for us, both in times of difficulties and in times of grace, in times of lack and in times of abundance, in times of sorrow and in times of joy. There is every reason to give thanks and praises to God. If you haven't seen the reason to give thanks to God this morning, please thank God because he has kept you alive to see the first half of 2016. Is it not amazing that we are now heading to the second half of the year? Is it not amazing God has counted you worthy to be alive to see this day? We have no reason not to have a thankful heart today. Our theme for this month of June is: **"Created for His Pleasure, I shall Manifest His Glory"**. However, since today is our thanksgiving day, we are dedicating this column to thanksgiving since that is the only thing God demands of us. In emphasizing the need to come before the Lord with thanksgiving, the Psalmist said: **"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name" (Psalm 100:4).**

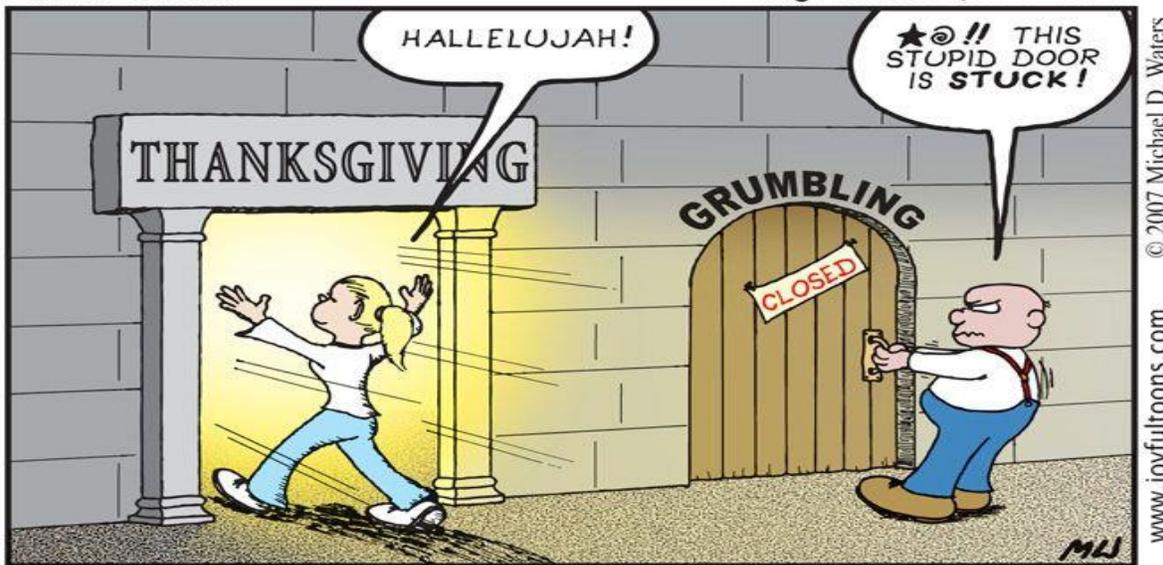
Developing a thankful heart can revolutionize the quality and enjoyment of one's life. Imagine the ordeal that Paul and Silas were in; their feet were shackled behind bars and they were waiting for the worst to come. But because they were inspired to resort to thanksgiving of songs and praises, as you and I are required to give today, their destiny was permanently turned around. We are told in **Acts 16:25** that **"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them."** Now, if you ask me, few of us have circumstances like Paul and Silas had to complain about. But instead of complaining, they lifted their hands to the Lord with thankful hearts and began to sing praises! Why? Because they were taking God's Word seriously, and praising God despite the physical circumstances. Shouldn't we be doing the same thing today when things turn black around us? What happened as a result of the thanksgiving of Paul and Silas? **Acts 16:26** says **"And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed."** Their praises during that time touched the very heart of God, and as a result, the very ground the prison was on shook with an earthquake and they were loosed!! All we can say is "what a wonder"! I guess you could say that their singing out in praises in the face of despair touched the very heart of God! My question to you is, would God not be touched by our praises today? Would He not do the same thing for us today that He did for them?

This is the challenge before everyone one of us as we march triumphantly into the second half of this year. Beginning with this morning, let us come before God with a heart of thanksgiving and praises. God is not asking of us anything that is beyond our powers. All He is asking of us is testimonies and thanksgiving. Let us publicize the things He is doing in our lives. When Jesus healed the leper in **Mathew 8: 1-4**, He said unto him: **"...See you tell no man; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony to them."** Christ's command to tell no one but the priest is a command not to give testimonies among unbelievers who do not value it, but

to share God's goodness to us in the house of God. This is a challenge to you and me today. Let us come out with a heart of thanksgiving to the King of kings. If we do this today, the Lord will cut asunder those chains and shackles that may have afflicted us for years! The Good Lord will set you free as you come before Him this morning with a heart of thanksgiving!

ENTER IN

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name. — PSALM 100:4 NIV

NB. If you have been blessed by our Word for the Week or inspired in any way by them, please let us know by sending an email to The Pastor at pastor@rccglfc.org.