



THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD

OCTOBER 1, 2017

**Living Faith Chapel, Calgary
(Solution Center)**

WORD FOR THE WEEK

THE BLESSEDNESS OF THANKSGIVING

We thank the Almighty Father for His loving kindness 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. Just give it some thoughts and you would realize that your primary debt to God is to thank Him. A little over 30 days ago, we celebrated the dawn of the new month of September, and now we are in October, the first month in the last quarter of the year 2017. Today is the 274th day of the year and we have just 91 days left in 2017. How time flies! Yes, you would say “how time flies!” because things are going on well with you and family. On the other side you see people who lament that time moves too slowly; they wish the year could go faster so that they could leave the horrible memories of this year behind. Some have lost loved ones this year and some have lost a lot of their invested funds and many more have lost their jobs and are yet to find other means of survival. However, here you are with all your family members alive, your finances and jobs still intact. If you haven't seen the reason to give thanks to God this morning, please thank God because you are among the living today and that you are destined to see the end of the year and move victoriously into year 2018. It is worth heeding the advice of the Psalmist in **Psalm 100:4**: **“Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name”**.

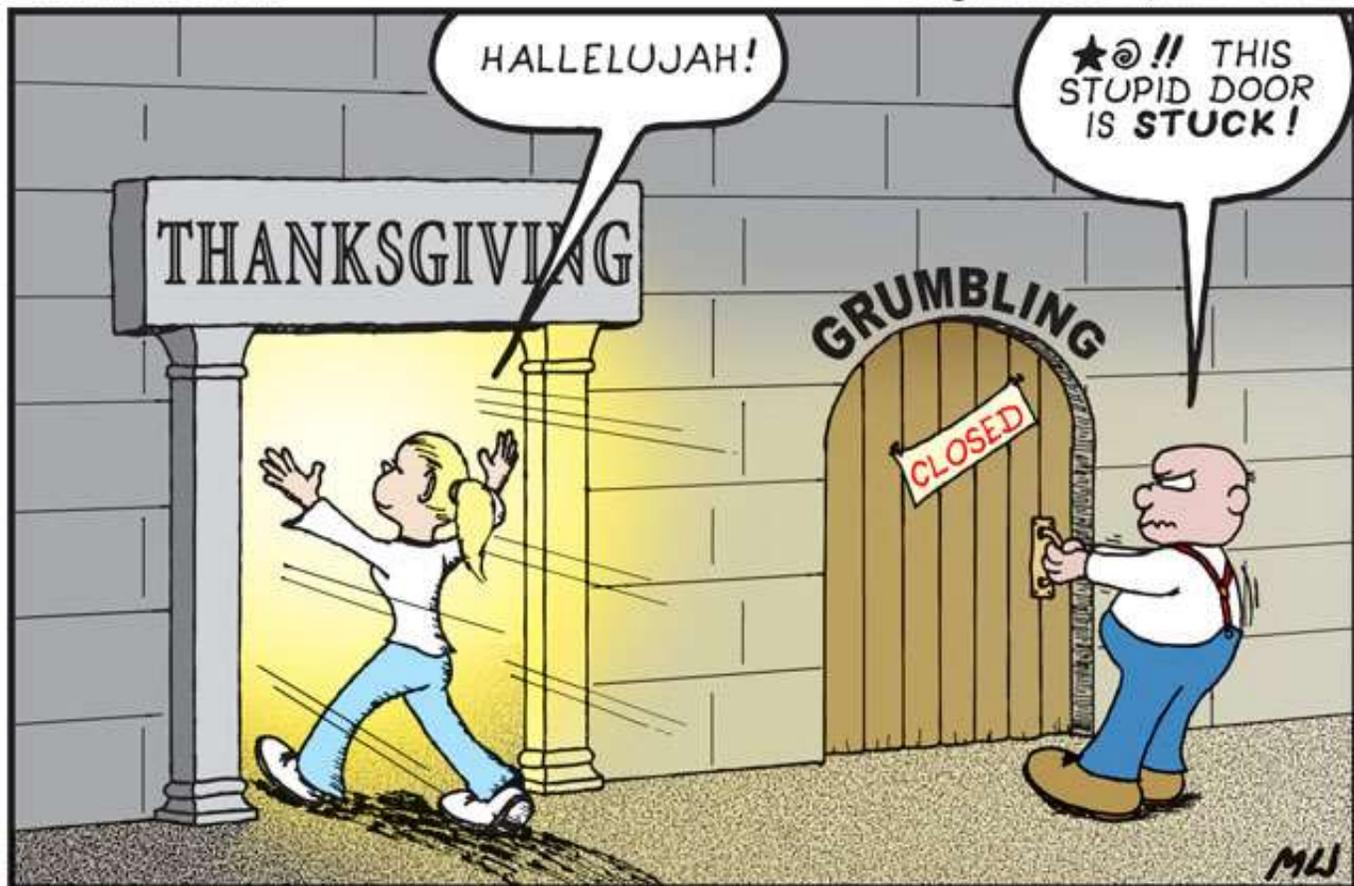
The theme for this month is “Watch and Pray”. This is divine warning to watch and pray – **Mark 13:33 – 37** is not an easy task, especially because of things happening in the society in which we live in, but being prayerful and praising God in all challenges we face brings out great results in our lives and ministries. 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.”** 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.”** 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 unshackle our lives today if we praise Him the way Paul and Silas did?

This is the challenge before everyone one of us today. Beginning with this morning, let us come before God with a heart of gratitude and 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 broadcast the things He is doing in our lives so that others who listen to us might be edified. 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.”** This is a challenge to you and me today. If we do this today, the Lord will cut asunder those chains and shackles that may have afflicted us for years!

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

ENTER IN

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



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give thanks to him and praise his name. — PSALM 100:4 NIV