



FROM YOUR PASTOR'S PEN...

We are coming upon that time of year when we are reminded to be thankful. But why do we need to be reminded to be thankful? Why are there commandments for us to be thankful in the Bible? Because thanksgiving does not just come naturally, we have to work at it, and I believe Scripture gives us the motivation to thank God.

Look at Psalm 100 – *A PSALM FOR GIVING THANKS: 1 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! 2 Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! 3 Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! 5 For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.*

Sometimes we need motivation to fulfill God's commands. Well, Psalm 100 gives us the motivation to thank God as it gives us two invitations to praise and thank God; these invitations to thank God are due to eight aspects of God's character and blessings to us. Psalm 100 is the doxology for Psalm 93-99, which are the Kingship Psalms. Psalm 100 is a psalm of Thanksgiving; for giving thanks in celebrating the fact that the Lord is King, and based on that, we are given an invitation to praise God.

Who is to praise God? All of us, no matter what our circumstances are. The Psalmist says: make a joyful shout to the LORD. It is quite interesting this word for shout (an imperative, a command) means: **signal with loud noise; to cry out, shout of triumph, jubilant shout.** I think in our timidity we often don't express an excited thanksgiving to God. Worship, praise and thanksgiving is not for us, it's for our God and King. And if we visibly saw God in our worship services, we would not hold anything back.

Going on in verse 1 we see that when someone gladly serves someone else; they recognize that they are over them and are joyful about it. There is no coercion to serve God here, but a joyful willingness. A person who serves (literally to be subject as a servant) this way desires to be close to God. Next, notice this: the intimacy of closeness to God comes from a joyful shout, to gladly serving, to come before His presence with singing.

Where is the Lord's presence? Everywhere. So why is there a commandment here? I think we need to acknowledge God's presence and be aware of his external and internal



presence with us. Look at verse four. When we gather together for public worship we should come before God with: thanksgiving and praise on our hearts. This word thanksgiving literally means to confess or acknowledge God's character and works. This word for praise literally means a song of adoration, praise or thanksgiving that extols the excellence of someone.

Next we are to thank God, and the focus here is on the content; that is what we are actually thanking God for. Reflect – Do you think it matters what words we use in our praise singing unto God? Yes! I think it is very important that the words in our hymn and praise choruses are accurate and glorifying to God. I do not think we should take that lightly!

As a church, let's be known
as thankful people.

Lastly, it says "bless His name" and the focus of this word bless, is the position of worship; originally meant *to kneel* in worship. We are a distracted people, even during times of worship. One way we can focus on God is through our posture in worship. And I would encourage you to use whatever posture that is most comfortable with you and helps you focus on God.

So, what are some reasons we are to praise and thank God? Look at verse three: 1. He is the one and only true God. 2. He is the Creator. 3. We belong to Him. 4. We are His people. 5. He is the bountiful Benefactor. 6. (Verse 5) He is good. 7. His mercy is everlasting. 8. He is faithful.

Therefore as we enter into a month of remembering to be thankful, remember our invitations to give thanks and the reasons why we should be thankful. As a church, let's be known as thankful people and remember that we are doing better than we deserve. Thank God for that!

CBC Bulletin Board



HARVEST FESTIVAL
 Monday, Oct. 31st
 6-8pm, Sierra Vista Center
 Please donate candy, and/or
 fruits, and cookies

WMU MISSIONS BENEFIT QUILT GIVEAWAY:

LAST CHANCE! Tickets available with a donation
 The Quilt will be given away during the Harvest Festival



Thanksgiving

POTLUCK

Sunday – November 13th

Woman to Woman Mentoring

M&Ms

God is good! We have six women committing to a three-month Mentoring relationship. Please pray for M&Ms, that they will grow closer to God and one another.

If you are not participating at this time, please consider being a Mentor or a Mentee (M&M), when we start a new group in January of 2012!

See Debra Fulenwider for More info.

Ongoing Ministries

WMU Meeting –
 Thursday, November 10th,
 10am, Potluck Lunch, and
 Special Slide presentation of
 Pastor Jacob in Kenya: Ben
 Taylor

Women's Bible Study – TO
LIVE IS CHRIST, Mondays,
 7pm, Ben Taylor, **EXCEPT**
Not Meeting Oct. 31st

Outreach Committee **Meeting –**

Sunday, Nov. 6th, after
 church, Ben Taylor

Youth Service Project –
 Sunday, Nov. 13th, after
 Potluck, Taking Meals to
 Shut-Ins and others in our
 church family

Men's Breakfast –
 Saturday, November 19th,
 7:30am, Doors Open, 8am
 for Breakfast, Ben Taylor
 Rd.

CHURCH VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS:

Vision: A safe, Christ-centered environment to invest into
 your family, our community, and beyond!

Mission:

1. Providing for people's needs
2. Uncompromising teaching of God's Word
3. Demonstrating God's love to everyone
4. Uniquely expressing praise and gratitude to God
5. Becoming a fully committed follower of Christ

Current Sermon Series –

Sundays, 10:30am

"DEVELOPING AUTHENTIC FAITH"
 A look into the Epistle of James



NOVEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Reg. Service Times 9:30 am – Bible Study 10:30am – Morning Worship	31 Harvest Festival 6-8pm – Sierra Vista	1	2	3	4	5 Operation Christmas Child Packing Party/Dessert Potluck, 6:30pm, Ben Taylor
6 Reg. Services – Communion Outreach Mtg. After church, Ben Taylor <i>Meeting with DOM, 3pm</i>	7 Women’s Bible Study – 7pm Ben Taylor	8	9	10 WMU – 10am Ben Taylor	11 VETERAN’S DAY 	12
13 Reg. Services Thanksgiving Potluck Youth Project	14 Women’s Bible Study – 7pm Ben Taylor	15	16	17	18	19 Men’s Breakfast 7:30am – Ben Taylor
20 Reg. Services	21 Women’s Bible Study – 7pm Ben Taylor	22	23			26
27 Reg. Services	28 Women’s Bible Study – 7pm Ben Taylor	29	30			

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

- 5 – John Stiehr
- 8 – David Canfield
- 13 – Brenda Longnecker

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

- 18 – Karl and Debra Fulenwider

NOVEMBER 2011

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Contact Information:

Pastor Gary Howard

Cell: 530-906-0480

Email: pastorgaryhoward@yahoo.com

Church Office: 24850 Ben Taylor Rd. Ph. 530-346-8110

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 8am to 2:30pm

Please call or email Pastor Gary to set up after hour appointments



COLFAX BAPTIST CHURCH

"One by faith, together a family in the Sierra Foothills"

PO BOX 531
COLFAX, CA 95713
530-346-8110