

Season of Thanksgiving

Reading for today

Matthew 11:25-30

The blessings of God flow from a heart of thanksgiving

Psalm 95:1-3

In our pursuit for more, let's not lose sight of what God has done

What are you thankful for?

What are you believing God for?

Jesus says -

I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.

If Jesus practiced giving thanks – how much more should we

Our words are powerful!

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

How do we give thanks?

Repent

Mat 11:23-24

The judgment of God is not something that can simply be ignored

Sinners in the hands of an angry God – 1741

Jonathan Edwards, the great awakening – revival in the mid 1700's

Culture today the does not want to consider the judgment of God

Slipping further into wickedness – almost daily

Repentance -

Turn from the path you are going on

Denounce your sin –

- Cast off your appetite for wickedness
- Cast off your offenses and ideals

Give thanks to God –

Over the years, my list of what I am thankful for has grown
Thanksgiving is not just seasonal – it is missional

Jesus says “I thank you Father, Lord of Heaven and Earth that you have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.”

The gift is not a condition on who we are, but a condition of who the giver is –

- Simple and thankful – not the prudent and the wise

Come to Jesus

“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

Jesus gives us an invitation

- Religion has its focus on repentance only
- Jesus has His focus on relationship

People are drawn to community –

- Jesus is calling us to a communal relationship with Him
- Don't make the mistake of renouncing your sin – without accepting your new citizenship

Philippians 3:20-21

The idea of statelessness (from the U.S. Government Website)

Persons intending to renounce citizenship should be aware that, unless they already possess a foreign nationality, they may be rendered stateless and, thus, lack the protection of any government. They may also have difficulty traveling as they may not be entitled to a passport from any country. Statelessness can present severe hardships: the ability to own or rent property, work, marry, receive medical or other benefits, and attend school can be affected

When we repent, we renounce

When we accept Jesus' invitation, we become citizens of Heaven

Take Jesus' Yoke Upon You

Jesus does not call us to idleness

“For my yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

Hebrews 12:1-2

- For the Joy set before Him!
- Not about being easy – it's about being worth it!