"On your walls, O Jerusalem I have set watchmen all the day and all the night." Isaiah 62:6

WATCHMEN ON THE WALL



In Everything

Watchmen Prayer Warriors,

Life is full of so many ups and downs it can feel like you are riding the Shock Wave roller coaster at Six Flags over Texas. Hop in, buckle up, and get ready for thrills and chills. One minute life is chugging uphill in the daily grind, the next minute you are roaring downhill with an exhilarating piece of good news, followed by a twist of bad news that you never saw coming. We must remind ourselves that our sovereign and loving God is in control of every twist and turn of our lives. But God asks something more of us than just trust in Him – He asks for our thanks and gratitude to Him in every twist and turn, every hill and valley. In 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, "Give thanks in everything; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Why would God command that we give thanks to Him in everything? After all, some things in life don't feel good and certainly don't engender gratitude. Well, if for no other reason, He is worthy of our thanks in all circumstances. God is all powerful, all knowing, and all present. He is the definition of love and justice, righteousness and kindness. He loves His children and orchestrates all things together for the good of those who love Him (Rom. 8:28). He deserves our thanks.

Giving thanks in all things also keeps our hearts centered in gratitude. If we remember that all things are a part of God's plan in our lives it can help to keep the highs from being too high ("look what I did") and keep the lows from being too low ("oh woe is me"). Our lives need to reflect the balance that trust in and obedience to our God provide. In Philippians 4 Paul links prayer and thanksgiving with peace beyond human comprehension. Our gratitude in everything keeps us calm and centered.

Continual, consistent gratitude also exalts Jesus Christ as the One who demonstrated God's greatest act of love for us as sinful and needy people – while we were yet sinners. When we have been redeemed by the great love and sacrifice of our Savior it puts all the things that we experience in life in perspective. Jesus is glorified to a watching world when we can be grateful and calm in everything. We know we are redeemed for eternity whatever may come in this temporal world.

Watchmen Prayer Warriors, let's remember as we pray that we are to be thankful in all things. Even on those days when you don't feel like it (believe me I get it) take time to say "Thank You!" to our loving Father. As you prepare to lift up prayer requests on behalf of the ministries at Mobberly begin with giving thanks to our God. Perspective in our prayer life comes when we are thankful in all things.

Greg Martin

Pastor of Congregational Care

Special Prayers for All in These Times

<u>2 Timothy 1:7</u> says, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." As believers, we have the authority Christ has given us to pray about the spread of any disease and pray for healing for those who have the Coronavirus.

- Praise God for His sovereignty. He is and always will be in control of all things. Pray that we will trust Him to help us navigate this season of uncertainty. (Psalm 103:19)
- Ask God to protect our missionaries and their families around the world, using these global circumstances to advance His Good News to all nations. (Mark 16:15)
- Pray for the protection of doctors, nurses, crisis response teams, emergency first responders, researchers and other medical professionals who risk their lives to protect ours.
- Pray for wisdom for governmental leaders to have the wisdom to direct us in the best course of action for our country. (Romans 13:1–4).
- Pray for peace, calmness, freedom from fear, anxiety and panic among individuals and communities. (Philippians 4:6-7)
- Pray for racial understanding, peace, and harmony. Pray every person as an image-bearer of God, would experience justice and protection. (Galatians 3:28)

See web links below for the most up-to-date information about our campus schedules.

- View Worship Gatherings online (mobberly.org/online)
- Prayer concerns (<u>mobberly.org/pray</u>)
- Give to the Lord through Mobberly (<u>mobberly.org/give</u>)
- Stay connected with our social media accounts on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.
- Subscribe to our email news list.

Praise: Praising God for who He is and for what He is doing.

- Our Sovereign God reigns and rules
 - Psalm 115:1-3 (CSB): "¹Not to us, Lord, not to us, but to Your name give glory because of Your faithful love, because of Your truth. ²Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?" ³Our God is in heaven and does whatever He pleases."
 - **Job 42:1-2 (CSB):** "¹Then Job replied to the Lord: ²I know that You can do anything and no plan of Yours can be thwarted."
 - 1 Chronicles 16:29-31 (CSB): "²⁹Ascribe to the Lord the glory of His name; bring an offering and come before Him. Worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness; ³⁰let the whole earth tremble before Him. The world is firmly established; it cannot be shaken. ³¹Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice, and let them say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!""

Praise the Lord:

• For our Mobberly Assist Team (MAT) members. They serve behind the scenes in many of our ministry areas, ministry events and weekly activities all across the campus. They serve with

humility, wisdom, and forethought. They provide support with medical issues, safety concerns, lend helping hands and assistance to many in need and keep a watchful eye for any needs as they arise during church activities. We need to commend and thank them for their time and energy spent on this effort to keep us all safe while attending church events and activities.

- We have wrapped up several key projects relating to Oasis in the Pines, Hope Road and some
 construction and maintenance projects. We are thankful for God's provision through God's people
 to facilitate ministry and maintain the incredible spaces with which God has blessed Mobberly.
- For a refreshing, restful one-day Worship staff retreat. We are thankful for Mobberly members
 who showed the gift of hospitality and used their resources to bless and host the Worship staff for
 that day.
- For 59 people who went out for Prayer/Visitation to Upward families and first-time visitors to Mobberly in October.
- For a wonderful Candy Parade event with hundreds of families present.
- For fantastic adult Connect Groups that help us fill the gaps each Sunday as Preschool Partners.
- Mobberly's Mother's Day Out program enjoyed Firefighter Day and the children brought lots of treats to share with the community helpers.
- For four new babies who were added to our Mobberly families in October.
- For bringing new families and children to us every Sunday and Wednesday.
- For providing an amazing Student Ministry Father/Son event in October. Praise the Lord for the many parents in our church that our being intentional about leading their children spiritually.
- For the many amazing adults who work alongside us in the Student Ministry. None of it would be possible without our Sunday and Wednesday adult leaders.
- We are still seeing salvation and baptism within our Student Ministry.
- High School students are asking questions about their faith... and students are seeking the Bible for their answers.
- Students are accomplishing ministry in their families and school.
- We added three new apprentices to our College and Young Adult Ministry. They will be a great addition to our ministry.
- Our Wednesday Night Midweek gathering has grown in number and has strengthened the unity within our Young Adult Ministry.
- For a wonderful time of spiritual growth, encouragement and God's hand of protection as Mobberly's Senior Adults traveled to a conference at the Billy Graham Training Center.
- For a joint Sunday morning Connect Group time with Mobberly's Senior Adults and College/Young
 adults around the Love the Nations Asia video. This resulted in intergenerational connections built
 upon faith and fellowship.
- For the growing partnership Hope Road and Young Lives Longview has with our Women's Ministry Worthy Crisis Pregnancy Team.
- For a wonderful night of worship and encouragement at Made New, our annual women's event.
 We thank God for Jen Wilkin, our worship team, the maintenance team, the staff, and volunteer teams that all worked to make the evening a night that gave glory to God and challenged us toward everyday faithfulness.
- For our women's mission trip to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to help lead plant partner New Horizon's ladies' retreat. God provided safe travel and a rich time of refreshment and encouragement to all who were present.
- For Marshall campus members and attenders catching the vision for Love the Nations, praying for mission partners, and going on mission trips.
- For the ability to partner with local Marshall community organizations such as Marshall Pregnancy Resource Center, 4Families/4Kids, and CASA.
- For continuing to draw people to salvation and baptism in Marshall.

- For the many worship leaders who have led the Marshall campus during Haley Punjak's maternity leave. We are thankful for her return from leave during November!
- For new support ministry partnerships that are bringing help and healing to the community.
- For new flourishing Thrive! support groups.
- For showing up in the small moments and showing His always-on-time provision and glory.
- For his protection of His people and calling us back to Himself.
- For the children finding forever families through Heart Gallery Etx.
- For new Thrive! Champions who are coming forward to start new support opportunities.
- For a good Hope Road Counseling (HRC) Ministry Leader Breakfast and having Chad Byrd with us and for his willingness to share his story of brokenness and redemption.
- For over a dozen 100% counseling scholarships for pastors/spouses given during October.
- For Night of Hope sponsorships from individuals, other churches and businesses.
- For Dr. Treva Barham stepping into the Director of Counseling role for HRC.
- For HRC counselors partnering with Worthy Ministry for leader equipping.
- For the spiritual formation classes that are going well and for Joey and Lisa Degraffenried and their willingness to pour out so much into people during these classes.
- For the HRC Advisory Council who consistently give of themselves and their time to advise, encourage and selflessly serve us at Hope Road Counseling.
- For our Tuesday morning Family Services benevolence ministry continuing its vital ministry. <u>Ten</u> people put their hope in Jesus through this team's ministry since the last Watchmen Alert! Pray for these new believers as they grow in Christ: Porsha, Willie, Johnny, Zarri, Toshiya, Celia, Graislynn, Vessner, Kevin, and Ramonia.

Repent: Our sins committed and commands neglected.

Our ongoing sins disrupt our fellowship with our heavenly Father. This is why we need to repent of our sins and confess them to God. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1:9, CSB)

As you pray, take time to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal your sins. Think through various areas of your life: sins of thought, sins of attitude, sins of omission, sins of commission, sins of self-reliance or sins of relationships. Ask God for the grace to repent and to restore your fellowship. Then thank God that Christ has already paid for your sins. Rest in His unfailing love.

Ask: When our hearts are God-oriented in praise and purified through repentance, then we are ready to "Ask". God encourages us to come boldly to Him and ask. "Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16, CSB)

Ask God:

- To raise up more people to serve in the Mobberly Assist Team (MAT) ministry. We need to pray
 for some people who have a heart and interest to serve in this way as we begin to work with our
 MAT team to get better organized and help fulfill their desire to provide assistance across our
 campuses and at all facilities.
- To provide for ongoing deferred maintenance projects that will take resources to facilitate so as to continue providing the best possible spaces for our ministries and for the safety of those who come on to our campus daily and weekly. Continue to pray for God's provision for these needs.

- To continue to bless all the preparations for Sounds of the Season. As extra rehearsals begin in November please pray for the health and safety of those involved in Sounds of the Season.
- To bless one of the Mobberly worship teams as they go to the restaurant, Cargo, to lead worship
 during brunch on Nov. 16. May the words of the songs minister to those who may be dining at the
 restaurant during that time. We are thankful that the restaurant is open to having worship music
 played there.
- To bless our Prayer/Visitation on Nov. 9, asking that God would allow people to be at home and we could have spiritual conversations.
- For wisdom as we enter the holiday season and encourage families to make Christ the center of their focus.
- For healing for several Sunday and Wednesday Preschool volunteers experiencing health issues.
- To provide for the safe arrival of three new babies to Mobberly families in November.
- To help us do a good job of welcoming our new families in Children's Ministry and getting to know them – reaching out and making them feel seen and welcomed.
- To bless students and school teachers as we near the end of the Fall semester.
- To bless our student events in November, specifically Warrior Weekend (young men) and Friendsgiving (young women).
- To give us eyes to see and a heart for hurting students.
- To give us wisdom and understanding to answer the questions our students have.
- To help us to meet our students where they are in their busyness.
- To provide strength for obedience through the Holy Spirit in our students' lives.
- To provide two married couples to lead a new Young Married Connect Group.
- To encourage the many young men struggling with loneliness and anxiety.
- To bless and guide the Connect Groups as they get ready to go through the Advent Curriculum and to allow conversations to happen church-wide and in many families.
- To guide our women's Bible study teams as they look to their final weeks of studies in the fall semester. Pray that God would allow each woman to finish well, to know more of who He is and to find deeper fellowship among sisters in Christ as this semester concludes.
- To bless and lead our Women's Ministry office as they prepare for 2026 ministry endeavors, mission opportunities and leadership development opportunities.
- To help men grow closer to their brothers in Christ through connections formed at Man Night.
- To lead Mobberly Men to continue to grow in their understanding of the important disciple-making role God has for them at home, at church, at work, etc.
- To bless the Women's Ministry efforts to disciple college women in 1:1 relationships this year.
- To provide both male and female adult leaders for Marshall Student Ministry.
- To speak through Aaron Deville as he preaches in Marshall on Nov. 30.
- To bring more musicians to the Marshall campus: electric guitar, drums, bass guitar.
- To grow the Marshall campus members and attenders into saints equipped for ministry. May they
 find fulfillment in fulfilling their ministry roles and may no role be left unfilled.
- To grow our Marshall Children's Ministry volunteer base as our Children's Ministry has doubled in size since 2024 and continues to grow. We are praying daily for four new preschool teachers and four new preschool helpers for Sundays.
- To raise up a new Adult Connect Group leader for Sunday morning and one-two more for a midweek group in Marshall. Two of our groups are praying to find a co-leader to share in the ministry.
- To raise up more men to lead on Wednesday nights in Marshall Student Ministry.
- To lead our Marshall campus members and attenders to make a tangible impact in the Marshall community by growing in generosity and sacrificial giving to God through the church.

- To grow our church as neighbors who love others as Jesus does, serve others as Jesus served and invite others to know of follow Jesus.
- To grow us in Head, Heart, and Hands during our church focus for 2025: Love the Nations. Ask God to send more from the Marshall campus on short-term and long-term missions.
- To provide for Keisha Robinson, one of our young adults who is serving at our church plant in San Antonio and working toward the International Mission Board (IMB) Journeyman missions program.
- To use the coming Advent and Christmas season to grow our faith and hope for the coming Savior.
- For calm hearts and loving response to families and individuals in crisis.
- For bravery and courage to walk into the uncomfortable spaces that God leads us into.
- For safe families to rise up and provide care and mentoring for youth in the foster care system.
- For the continued success and attention to Heart Gallery ETx, and for the future adoptive families
 of the children featured in the Gallery.
- For the needs of the children that attend Thrive! for Kids and Students (TFK) to be met. Ask that they feel seen, heard and valued by the people with whom they come into contact as they practice the emotional management and self-leadership skills learned during their time at TFK.
- For Celebrate Recovery (CR) participants and leaders stay focused on their recovery and not let fear and anxiety overcome them.
- For bravery for those that are seeking to release the chains of hurts, habits and hang-ups and are fearful to take the first steps through the doors of CR.
- For a continued healthy partnership with Dept. Family and Protective Services families.
- For the healthy support of children that remain in state conservatorship.
- For healing of those that are experiencing the dissolution of their marriages and are seeking recovery through DivorceCare.
- For people grieving a loss, life change and/or challenges.
- For single moms in our midst to feel love and a sense of community in their current circumstances.
- For Selah Moms to bring hope and comfort to women in the midst of heartbreak from pregnancy and infant loss and for the right man to come forward to lead a support group for dad's dealing with this loss.
- For Thrive! to "speak Jesus" into the hearts of all those with which we interact, endurance when
 the path gets difficult and for "next steps" to be made clear and the path to be bathed in His light.
- For wise decision-making in situations that present themselves in the course of ministry.
- For wisdom and protection in new avenues of support for the suffering in our community.
- For Thrive!'s partnership with Hope Haven of East Texas.
- To continue to use Chad Byrd's message at the Ministry Leader Breakfast to encourage those
 who were in attendance to open up spaces in them to be real about their own weaknesses and
 failures. As they do, pray that they would know something of the Father's love in new ways.
- To provide for and accomplish all that He desires at the Night of Hope Fundraiser Dinner through the attendees, speakers and the generosity of those He calls on to support HRC financially.
- To send another daytime male counselor for HRC.
- To guide, encourage and strengthen HRC counselors walking with clients and in their own journey through the holiday season.
- For the continued spiritual growth of our HRC counselors.
- To continue to guide the development of the intern training program at HRC.
- For the Holy Spirit's leadership and work in all our counseling sessions at HRC.

Yield: To what God says to me. Yield my will to the will of God. Yield my agenda to the plan God has for my life. We must be willing to yield our desires and our thoughts to God's sovereign wisdom. As Jesus faced the cross, He prayed in Matthew 26:39 (CSB), "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me. Yet not as I will, but as You will." We must pray with that same spirit, humbly yielding our will to God's will. To close our prayer by "yielding" to God is a way in which we submit our desires to Him. In the end, it is our way of acknowledging His will, which is what will truly satisfy us anyway. God's will and plan are better than ours. He knows the end from the beginning, and He loves us more than we can ever imagine.

"18 Give thanks in everything; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:18