Grace—the Ultimate Gift!

#3264 25 1123A Thanksgiving

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- 1 Thanksgiving is the time to Praise God for so many things we so often take for granted.
- **2** We thank God for His Son paying our enormous sin-debt, and for giving us His Holy Spirit to inspire to trust in His sacrifice for us—*that* fills us with gratitude!
- **3** Giving thanks to God is not a *suggestion* but a *command:* "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" 1 Thessalonians 5:18.
- 4 When we give thanks, we see God's blessings and His grace to us—kindness, mercy, and pardon. "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits" AV Psalm 103:2.
- 5 Israel was reminded over and over—AV Deuteronomy 8:1 "All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live" and increase and possess the land the LORD is giving you.
- 6 Thanksgiving is the opportunity we have to thank God for so many blessings.
- 7 We have no reason to complain, but only to praise God Psalm 103:5 Who "gives many benefits; forgives our sins; heals our diseases; redeems our soul; and showing mercy, love and grace.

- 8 A grateful heart is a thankful attitude. God's love for us is without question—"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all" Romans 8:32—will surely give every other good gift.
- **9** Trusting God in faith is only done *here* in *this life*—for healing; health; protection; and all other needs in our daily walk.
- **10** We are never alone as His Holy Spirit is always with us. Only *Jesus* can *forgive* our sins, and only *God* can *change* our heart—but we must *allow* His Spirit to bring *about* the change.
- 11 If we truly believe that we must *give* God what *belongs* to Him, His Spirit will inspire us to thank God every day; to recognize His blessings; to speak words of God's gifts to others; and to always choose *contentment* over *comparison*.
- **12** Thanksgiving is not a *feeling* but a *choosing* to recognize God's *ultimate gift of grace!*
- **13** Thanksgiving reminds us to be *grateful* and looking for ways to bear spiritual fruit.
- **14** We thank God for knowing His Truth and giving access to His kingdom after this life.
- **15** Technology can be a blessing and it *has* been by enabling us to *share* service messages with others via Drop Box and the FCGC Web page. God enables us to publish, print, and send sermons to many countries.
- **16** The ultimate gift is the *grace* God bestows on us through His Son's *Atonement* for our sins.
- 17 NLT Ephesians 2:4 "God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so very much, 5 that even while we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead."
- **18** God was willing to visit our *world* so He could take our place on a *cross* and forgive the sins in our *life*.
- **19** We now choose to *believe* Him and trust Him to change our attitudes and desires.

- **20** The instructions Jesus gave touches our *lives* and our *wallets*—Av Matthew 6:19 "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth."
- **21** *Gratitude* guards our heart from *complaining*—it shifts our thoughts from what we *lack* to what we *have*.
- 22 The enemy of *gratitude* is *forgetting*—like forgetting the prayers God answered; forgetting the opportunities He gave us; forgetting the spiritual battles He brought us through; and forgetting the *mercy*, *love*, *and grace* He has for us.
- **23** We should remind ourselves daily to choose *contentment* over *comparison*!
- **24** The apostle wrote from a prison AV Philippians 4:11 "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." That is our reminder—to praise God and learn contentment.
- 25 Greed is so common today—even though so many have so much of all they could need and more. Greed is continually wanting more, never saying enough, and never remembering to say *Thanks*, *Lord*, *for the ultimate gift of grace You have given me*.
- **26** All the blessings we now have and enjoy are just on *loan*—we *use* them and then *leave* them—and then go to a better place.
- **27** "The time is short" Luke 12:40 "You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."
- **28** Our life on earth is to *glorify* God—and we *do* that by *thanking* Him for healing us; protecting our family; and for giving us His truth from the Book He wrote.
- 29 We should daily praise and thank God for family, friends, and faith in Him for what we need—health, healing, peace, protection, and a paradise kingdom.
- **30** As we gather around tables this Thanksgiving—let us realize what a gift all that is—and as we talk about events of the day and share about

the good things that took place in our life, our hearts are filled with gratitude and thankfulness.

- **31** Jesus chose a meal time to tell *His* disciples about what would soon take place in *His* life, so our sins could be *forgiven*, and His grace *given* to anyone who will believe and trust in that atoning work He accomplished on the Cross.
- **32** Believers *in Jesus* are to meet things *in life* as Scripture says—reminding us of the need to *forgive* everyone of anything ever done against us—*not* recalling it and *not* discussing it with anyone.
- **33** Forgiving from our heart means deleting it from our memory—forgetting the offense *ever* took place.
- 34 Thanksgiving is a time to say *Thanks*, *Lord*, for *Your mercy*, love, and grace—and for giving us *Your Truth that leads to Your kingdom!* May we keep this *attitude* of *gratitude* through the remainder of 2025 and on into 2026.
- **35** There are *three things* that no amount of money can buy and no amount of trying can obtain.
- **36** These three things are needed today more than ever. The world needs all three, but they are out of reach in their present condition.
- **37** It is *faith* in God that obtains all three—*forgiveness*, *peace*, *and paradise!*
- **38** They are freely given to anyone who is willing to trust God in faith, through the merit of the atoning blood of Jesus for everything in life—including an attitude of gratitude every day.
- **39** This Thanksgiving let us be sure to *thank* God for His *ultimate gift of Grace* and to thank Him for showing us anything that is unscriptural in our life.
- 40 And as we ask Him, He will give the ability to *change* anything that should be changed.

- 41 Gratitude is the attitude of thanking God for His grace—in "Every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" 1 Thessalonians 5:18.
- **42** God cannot change Malachi 3:6; James 1:17 and will always *do* the right thing by us—that is why He still enlightens us; still protects; still provides; still blesses; still forgives as we forgive; and still promises to save us by His *grace*.
- **43** The Blood of Jesus atones for *all sins* of *all people*—but only a few are willing to believe and trust God.
- **44** YLT **John 3:18** "He who is believing in him is not judged, but he who is not believing hath been judged already, because he hath not believed in the **name** of the only begotten Son of God."
- **45** We are to *claim* our blessing in faith from our bank account in Heaven. When we give to the poor, we...
- **46** NIV **Luke 12:33** "Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted."
- **47** If someone *steals* our goods, *slanders* our name, or *insults* our family, we follow...
- **48** NKJV Romans 12:19 "Do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord."
- 49 It seems so difficult to not be angry at some person or angered by some offensive remark—but God promises to take care of such incidents. We just decide at that moment, to place the matter into His hands and do nothing more about it.
- **50** We have the instructions YLT Matthew 5:44-45 "Love your enemies, bless those cursing you, do good to those hating you, and pray for those accusing you falsely, and persecuting you, that ye may be sons of your Father."

- **51** Meeting wrongs, persecution, unfair treatment, and false accusations in a scriptural way—is how we *trust* God and why we give *thanks* to Him for His *ultimate gift of grace!*
- **52** Jesus gave His life *on the cross*, so our *heart could* be changed *in this life*. If we believe He did that for us, our sins *will be* forgiven, the door opened to Paradise.
- **53** As we anticipate many good things we enjoy this holiday and beyond—let us remember this about our Savior...
- 1. Always true to His Word—
 "He who promised is faithful"
 Hebrews 10:23
- 2. His mercy and grace are—
 "new every morning"
 Lamentations 3:23
- 3. He is right beside us—
 "lo, I am with you always"
 Matthew 28:20
- 4. He is—
 "Emmanuel, God with us"
 Matthew 1:23

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*Receive free Tracts email: fcgchurch1@gmail.com Or write to: PO Box 24283 Philadelphia, PA 19120 #3264 25 1123A Thanksgiving