



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299
Web site: www.dovercoc.org

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February 10, 2008

Grace and Gratitude

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”
(Ephesians 2:8-9)

“In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Salvation is a gift – not a bargain. A bargain is when you pay less than full price for a wanted or needed item. But you still pay. A gift is free to you. It usually costs the giver something.

Our salvation cost heaven much more. *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”* (John 3:16)

But to us, it is free. *“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”* (Romans 6:23)

The right response to a gift is to say, “Thank you.” I call these “magic words.”

I ask the children who come to my office to get candy to say the “magic words.”

But not only do children need to say, “Thank you” for candy, I need to express gratitude for God’s gift. Craig Barnes wrote, “You can either try to achieve a life or you can receive a life. One makes you upset that it’s not good enough, and the other makes you grateful for what you’ve been given.”

Gratitude is not a set of circumstances but a condition of the heart.

While on a short-term missions trip, Jack Hinton from New Bern, North Carolina, was leading a worship at a leper colony on the island of Tobago. There was time for one more song so he asked if anyone had a request. A woman who had been facing away from the pulpit turned around.

“It was the most hideous face I had ever seen,” Hinton said. “The woman’s nose and ears were entirely gone. The disease had destroyed her lips as well. She lifted a fingerless hand in the air and asked, “Can we sing “Count Your Many Blessings?””

Overcome with emotion, Hinton left the service. He was followed by a team member who said, “Jack, I guess you’ll never be able to sing that song again.”

“Yes I will,” he replied, “but I’ll never sing it the same way.”

“Have you received the gift of God? Are you saying the “magic words?”

Bulletin Digest

“I am too blessed to be stressed!” The shortest distance between a problem and a solution is the distance between your knees and the floor. The one who kneels to the Lord can stand up to anything!

The Holy Alphabet

Although things are not perfect
Because of trial or pain
Continue in thanksgiving
Do not begin to blame
Even when the times are hard
Fierce winds are bound to blow
God is forever able
Hold on to what you know
Imagine life without His love
Joy would cease to be
Keep thanking Him for all things
Love imparts to thee
Move out of *Camp Complaining*
No Weapon that is known
On earth can yield the power
Praise can do alone
Quit looking at the future
Redeem the time at hand
Start every day with worship
To “thank” is a command
Until we see Him coming
Victorious in the sky
We’ll run the race with gratitude
Xalting God most high
Yes, there’ll be good times and
yes, some will be bad, but . . .
Zion waits in glory . . .
where none are ever sad!

Author Unknown

Sent In By: Iris Bates
Springdale, Arkansas

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

In the October 2007 issue of *Reader's Digest* there was an article, "How the new science of 'thank you' can change your life" written by Deborah Norville. In the article she stated, "As science is now proving, feeling grateful can actually make us healthier, literally. Practicing gratitude, acknowledging the blessings in our lives and making it a point to recognize the good things can change positively. We'll sleep better and exercise more. We'll feel more optimistic. We'll be more alert and active.

"Studies were made. The results: The people who focused on gratitude were flat-out happier. They saw their lives in favorable terms. They reported fewer negative physical symptoms such as headaches or colds, and they were active in ways that were good for them. Plain and simple, those who were grateful had a higher quality of life. Others around them recognized that too. They even seemed to be perceived as more helpful toward others, going out on a limb to help people. A feeling of gratitude really gets people to do something, to become more pro-social, more compassionate."

She also wrote, "Related studies have found other benefits as well, all of which could arguably be linked to a grateful mind-set: clearer thinking, better resilience during tough times, higher immune response, less likelihood of being plagued by stress, longer lives, closer family ties, greater religiousness."

I found this article very informative. However, the information being a "new science" would only be "new" to them. To those of us who read and study, know that the Holy Word of God has this same advice, which was written several thousand years ago.

Proverbs provides God's detailed instructions for us to deal successfully in our everyday life. If we adhere to this book of wisdom we will live a better, more fulfilled life.

The following verses are some examples of that wisdom: "An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind
continued, same page, third column -

Remember Our Sick

Bob Bennett – serious health problems.

Lois Boley – home recovering.

Tom Cloud – in Heart Hospital, problems with his defibrillator.

Jessalyn Davis – St. Mary's, condition serious.

Jeannie Dickson – hospitalized with a serious infection from a cut. Marion/Joan's cousin.

Amanda Dodson – Freida Arnold's niece, diagnosed with seizures. If medication fails, brain surgery will follow.

Hoyt Ensey – serious health problems.

J. R. Hale – fractured and dislocated his elbow, surgery Wed., January 30th.

Leota Hickey – cataract surgery February 27th.

Annette Hull – thyroid cancer cells, treatment to follow.

Cleon Johnson – Paul Helton's mother, surgery Mon., Jan. 28, Doctors hopeful.

Ray King – serious health problems.

Joyce Walters – had second cataract surgery Mon., January 28, successful.

Tom Williams – in Joplin Hospital, still very serious, in ICU. He is Roxanna Shoptaw's brother-in-law.

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Evelyn Burton**
Bernice Brown

Russellville Nursing and Rehab Center:
Evelyn Driver
Melba Hodges

Stella Manor: **Louise Killer**
Mae Vanzandt

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Yvonne Adkisson, Amie Barkley, A. G. Barton, Carolyn Bennett, Lloyd Boley, William and Susie Boley, James Chadwick, Bobby Coker, Mike Cushman, Jeff Davis, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Sarah Ensey, Jeania Griffin, Paul and Sue Griffin, Dorothy King, Jim Lackey, Robert and Rose Lee, Liliya McDaniel, Linda Melton, Charles Proctor, Don Sheeran, Reddie Smith, Tanya Smith and Judy Will.

Special Children: Elysia Lee, Emmy May, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

Expectant Mothers: Kelley Chance, Beckie Clark, Amy Johnson, and Kristen Nordin.

Our Military: Greg Davis, Cole Wetzel and Rudy Will.

The Golden Rule

Be what you want others to be.

Speak the way you want others to speak to you.

Love like you want to be loved.

Live like you want those around you to live.

Be faithful because you want others to be faithful to you.

Sing like you want others to sing.

Serve like you want to be served.

Care for others as would want others to care for you.

Smile like you want others to smile at you.

Encourage others as you'd like them to encourage.

From: Selected

Lines For Ladies continued from column one same page . . .

word cheers him up." (12-25 NIV)

"A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed." (11:25 NIV)

"A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones." (17:22 NIV)

"A happy heart makes the face cheerful, but heartache crushes the spirit." (15:13 NIV)

"A cheerful look brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones." (15:30 NIV)

Prayers and sympathy for the family of Lora Brown Warren who passed away Wednesday, January 23, 2008. (Grand-daughter of Bernice Brown).

Events

Dover Church of Christ
Children's Church

Every Sunday
11:15 - 12:00 Noon

Ages 4 thru 8
Bible Story and
Activities

Ages 1 thru 3
Nursery Class

TEA PARTY!!!

February 23, 2008
Saturday, 11:30 AM

For All the Ladies of
the Dover Church of
Christ, Fellowship Hall

Hosted by the
Leaderettes

Door Prizes and
Entertainment

Please RSVP to:
Shirley Chadwick

Mark Your Calendars

CHRISTEENS 2008

February 22 thru 24th

West Side Church
Of Christ
2300 West "C" Street
Russellville, Arkansas

Limited to the first 1000!
Payment due February 8th.

Dover Men's Devo

Thursday, 7PM
February 14

Host to be announced.

Dover Ladies' Devo

Thursday, 7PM
February 21st

Hostess: Pat McAlister

Dover Church of Christ Ladies Day

Saturday, April 26th

Theme: "He is the potter,
We are the clay."

More info to follow!

February Birthdays

03 Mildred Turner
Jon David Vance
08 Mary McAlister
09 Juanita Whitted
11 Kristen Nordin
12 Shawn Bates
Emily Straight
15 Zackary Shelton
16 Rachel Curtis
19 Carolyn Bennett
Tyler Mullins
20 Kaci Statler
21 Julie Moss
22 Eugene Davis
Keri Letson
Troy Meadows
23 Bernice Brown
Pat McAlister
Linda Herron
24 Earl Kennedy
27 Caleb Chance
28 Theresa Motley

If we missed your birthday,
please let us know so it won't
happen again.

"In Search of the Lord's Way" Now 24/7

The Search Program can now
be accessed any time website:

www.searchtv.org

Mack Lyon's weekly lesson can
be heard and seen on KARK,
Channel 4, Sunday, 7:30 AM.

THOSE TO SERVE

February 10, 2008

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Robert Bird
Rick Hollis

Communion

Podium: Allen Veasman
Serve: Chris Besterfeldt
Chris Loper
Chris Moss
Dennis Whiteside

Scripture Reading

Rex Mc Daniel

**Sunday P.M.
Prayers**

Rex McDaniel
Merrell Shoptaw

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

Alan and Sandra Boatright

Communion to Shut-Ins

Donny Forehand
Earl Whitted

Greeters

Jim and JoAnn Killer

Wednesday Night Devotional

February 13, 2008

Sid Womack

Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes
9:45 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship
10:45 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship
6:00 P.M.
Ladies Tuesday Bible Class
10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Classes
7:00 P.M.

Minister: Micah Williams
Church Office: 479-331-3428
Or Cell: 479-264-9244

Elders:

William Boley 858-7131
Jim Killer 331-2802
Allen Veasman 331-2156
Sid Womack 967-2367

Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Chris Loper
Rex McDaniel
Joe Miller
Chris Moss

Nursery Attendants:

Sunday Class: JoAnn Killer
Sunday Church: Pat McAlister
Kaeli Miller

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Dover Church of Christ
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