

SICK LIST:**HEALTHCARE CENTERS:**

Bertharine Burton, Ruby Harrison, Ed Barrett

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, H.C. & Jimmie Nell Brown, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Bessie & Michael Files, Cynthia McMeans, Henry McDonald, Willie Nelson, Jeremy Chambers, Jason Chambers, J.D. Dailey

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Sharon Lawson, James & Wilma Howell, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom, Michael Pope, Robert Turner, Wonda Ivie, Bobby Holloway, Ricky McDonald, David Brown, Kim Elliott, James Felton, Tommy Pope, J.D. Dailey, James Horsley, Brenda Holloway, Kathy Pate, Jake & Diane Chambers, Donna Laratta, Robin & Brandon Mullis, Angie Johnson, Kathy Windham, Lane Clark, James Mason, Arthur Mason, Jimmy Barker

AM - BEN WRIGHT - "LESSONS FROM LEPERS"

PM - BEN WRIGHT - "GOD'S PURPOSE"

OUR CONDOLENCES GO OUT TO THE FAMILY OF H.C. BROWN. SERVICES WERE MONDAY

OUR MIDWEEK SERVICE WILL BE MOVED TO MONDAY NIGHT THE WEEK OF CHRISTMAS.

REMEMBER OUR HOLIDAY DINNER AT THE BULLPEN ON DEC 15

BIRTHDAY:

Dec 4: Sandy Richardson & Tammy Whitfield

7: Jason Chambers

ANNIVERSARY:

Dec 6: Gene & Linda McDonald

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HWY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
(205) 924-9038
westwalkerchurchofchrist.org

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING

Bible Class 9:30

Worship 10:20

SUNDAY EVENING 5:00

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00

ELDERS:

Gene McDonald 924-4827
Carlton Myers 221-0637
Neil Myers 924-9289
Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213
David Preston 300-1927
Kevin Richardson 295-8864
Chris Robbins 388-1354
Vince Roden 924-4062

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 522-8004

LESSONS FROM LEPERS

(Luke 17:11-19)

I. We learn to be thankful when we think of how _____ our situation was before we met Jesus (vs. 11-12).

- A. The closest disease that is equivocal to leprosy in our day is _____.
- B. There was complete _____ except for other lepers.
- C. Leprosy was a complete loss of your _____ way of life.
- D. These 10 men had no hope unless Jesus _____ them.
 - 1. You and I have no _____ unless Jesus heals us of our sin problem.
 - 2. We were _____ before we met Jesus and were completely lost without Him.
- E. Until we _____ how desperate we are or were before meeting Jesus we will never be thankful.

II. We learn to be thankful when we think about what we've _____ (vs. 13-14a).

- A. These men did _____ what the Law of Moses required of them.
- B. They knew their only hope was for Jesus to heal them out of _____.
- C. These men gained their _____ health because of the act of Jesus.
- D. When you and I _____ Jesus, we receive mercy.
 - 1. _____ is not what we deserve.
 - 2. Our sins cause us to be worthy of _____.
 - 3. But through _____ we gain salvation.

III. We learn to be thankful when we think about the fact that what was done for us could not be done _____ us (vs. 14b-16).

- A. No doubt these men had spent much time thinking of how to _____ themselves.
- B. Only Jesus had the power to _____ them.
- C. One of them ran back to Jesus and gave _____ to Him.
- D. Today, no one has the power to cleanse themselves of their _____.
- E. One man wrote, "When we stop praising God, we start _____ God."

IV. We learn to be thankful when we think about how much our ingratitude _____ God (vs. 17-19).

- A. You can tell by the questions that Jesus asked it _____ Him the others did not show thankfulness for what He'd done for them.
- B. We ought to be _____ thanking the Lord for what He has done for us.

- C. We want things _____ and we tend to forget about what has been done for us in the past.
- D. We are commanded to be _____ (1 Thessalonians 5:18).
1. The reason for this is ingratitude is a sign of _____.
 2. It is a sign we are _____ God.

An Eminently Scriptural Holiday
Dave Rogers

This past week, our nation observed "Thanksgiving" (and, collectively, ate way too much high-fat, high-cholesterol good food!). We also enjoyed visiting with family members and friends, watching hours of televised sports, and perhaps some of us then braved the insane crowds to hit the "Black Friday" sales and snatch up a few bargains. All of these things spring from a national tradition which reaches back to the early colonial era of our nation, when mere survival was regarded as one of God's greatest blessings and the collective expression of gratitude to Him was considered a fundamental requirement for a civilized, literate, and moral society. Most American children learned some form of the "pilgrim fathers" story of the first thanksgiving (particularly those of us now past forty years old), and we are thus aware of the religious connotation of those early expressions of thanks.

Of all the holidays our nation observes, this one is certainly appropriate for Christians to celebrate wholeheartedly! The bible, in both old and new testaments, encourages God's people to be grateful for the multitude of blessings He bestows. When we read that "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17, emphasis mine, DR), Christians ought to pause and reflect on both the sheer volume of blessings our Father provides and on the "negative implication" of this verse; that there is NO "other" source of goodness in our world! Whether we ascribe good things ("gifts") to the love of friends, brethren, or family members; to the charity of our communities; or to the largesse of our government, Christians should always remember that God is the ultimate source of all these things; without Him, neither family nor community nor even our government could have the ability or the will to bless or benefit us in any way.

Therefore, Paul urges the Thessalonian saints (and by extension all Christians), "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Note that he also instructed the Christians in Ephesus to give ". . . thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 5:20, ESV). It is instructive for us to pause and think about the "companion qualities" of those who are not thankful (read 2 Timothy 3:1-5), and in 1 Timothy 2:1 Paul says (by inspiration) that our "giving of thanks" pleases our Father (verse 3).

Here's the point: Christians ought to be an habitually thankful people! Not only should we be routinely grateful for the plethora of gifts and blessings we enjoy in this life, we should be

specifically grateful and ready to give thanks TO OUR GOD, recognizing Him as their source. Therefore, since our nation has the tradition of devoting a day to acknowledging the God of Heaven as the Source of our bounty, let us eagerly and enthusiastically endorse it, participate in it, and give thanks to our Father that we are blessed to live in a land where He can still be publicly acknowledged as the origin of all the "good and perfect" gifts we share!