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Thank you for your interest in our ministry and for taking your valuable time to obtain these words of encouragement. It is our prayer and desire that you will be blessed by the ministry that God has entrusted to us. We pray that you will be strengthened in your walk with Jesus Christ!

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Happy Thanksgiving!

Newsletter - November, 2009

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"If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of THANKSGIVING unleavened cakes mingled with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried." (Leviticus 7:12)

"Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and THANKSGIVING, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen." (Revelation 7:12)

Dear Friend of ChristLife,

We who know Jesus Christ have MUCH...VERY MUCH to be thankful for!

All of us should take some time to do what the old hymn encourages us to do..."Count Your Blessings". As Christians we are ALWAYS blessed! ALWAYS!!!

The literature that accompanies my letter this month is all about loving and appreciating God! Please take your time and read Pastor Marr's encouraging message entitled, "Seeking, Worshiping, Praising, Thanksgiving, And More". Practice this message and discover the reward of relating with God.

We are introducing again our annual Christmas Outreach, which involves placing Christmas card inserts inside the Christmas cards you send. Both this newsletter and our last one have included some copies of our Christmas card inserts. You still have time to order more for your Christmas cards. But please order soon.

Don't miss this opportunity to share the LOVE of JESUS! This simple idea will get the Gospel into the hands of your family and friends. Think about it, as you are sending your Christmas greetings, you are also sending the Power of God unto Salvation! Wouldn't it be wonderful to have your loved ones receive the gift of salvation this year!

Get your Christmas card inserts...TODAY!!!

Time is short my friends. None of us are guaranteed tomorrow. That is why the Bible tells us that NOW is the time for salvation. (2 Corinthians 6:2b "...behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.") If your loved one were to die today without repenting of their sin and knowing Jesus Christ, WHERE WOULD THEY BE? Friends, we cannot simply "hope for the best". We cannot "think that they are saved". We need to tell them the Good News and remind them that they need to be saved!

Love in Christ Jesus,
The ChristLife Ministry Team

P.S. You can also download copies of the Christmas card inserts from our web site. Visit us at:
www.christ-like.net/id25.html to obtain copies via the internet.

Proclaiming Christ Jesus All Sufficient Always in All Things to All Men Everywhere

Thanksgiving, What Does It Mean?

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Dear Friend of ChristLife,

As the Thanksgiving holiday is rapidly approaching, I prayed and sensed that it might be appropriate to look at the Bible words that are translated into English as "thanksgiving".

Above, I have quoted the first and last verses in the Bible (King James Version) that contain the word "thanksgiving".

When we think of "thanksgiving", most of us immediately think of the holiday. It is a day or two off from work, we spend time with family, and we get to eat turkey with all of the fixings.

Aside from the holiday, normally we would define "thanksgiving" in terms of "gratitude, thankfulness, or appreciation". Certainly, we should be grateful to God, but does this type of definition truly do justice to the definitions of the words used in God's Word?

When one studies the Bible, and researches the Hebrew and Greek definitions, they discover that there is far more behind these words than simply "appreciation" (see Concordance notes below). Along with "thankfulness", thanksgiving includes adoration and worship, even a "choir of worshippers". It includes definitive affirmation of the Truth of Jesus Christ and a trusting friendship relationship. The word "thanksgiving" is also defined as "actively grateful!"

When we are expressing thanksgiving ("towdah" - Hebrew, and "eucharistia" - Greek), we speak in a new language...a GRATEFUL language!

So when we celebrate "Thanksgiving" this year, we should be:

- * Speaking a new language of gratitude (not an old language of complaining, gossiping or worse.)
- * Adoring and worshipping God in such a way as to sound like a "choir of worshippers"!
- * Assuredly proclaiming that Jesus is the TRUTH.
- * TRUSTING in our friend Jesus, COMPLETELY and for ALL things.

Love in Christ Jesus,
The ChristLife Ministry Team

The Hebrew word used in Leviticus 7:12 is the word, "towdah" (Strong's Concordance H8426 - pronounced: to-daw').

"towdah" is defined as, "... properly, an extension of the hand, i.e. (by implication) avowal, or (usually) adoration; specifically, a choir of worshippers..."

The Greek word in Revelation 7:12 is the word, "eucharistia" (Strong's Concordance G2169 - pronounced: yoo-khar-is-tee'-ah)

"eucharistia" is defined as, "...gratitude; actively, grateful language (to God, as an act of worship)..."

To God be All the Glory! He Alone is Worthy!

Seeking, Worshipping, Praising, Thanksgiving, and More...

We use many words to describe the joyful experience of seeking God: longing, yearning, pursuing, desiring after, searching after, craving for, even burning with desire for Him.

Appreciating this particular emphasis of our relationship with the Lord mustn't deprive us of appreciation for other expressions.

There was a time when I tended, in expressing my relationship with the Lord, to think and speak almost exclusively in terms of worshipping God. Worshipping is expressing our appreciation of God for all the perfections that He is. Other words I use for worship are adoring, honoring, glorifying, exalting, uplifting, magnifying, extolling, and revering God.

And I add to these words that describe His names and characteristics or attributes such as omniscience, omnipotence, omnipresence, eternity and infinity. Also word pictures: shepherd, door, way, word, bread of life, water of life, rock, citadel, fortress, and on.

I continue using these with great benefit daily especially in times of sleeplessness, quiet times, and just when I turn to Him throughout the day. I'm sure I always shall.

I have found much help for many years in quietly, peacefully, seeking to rest in the Lord, frequently without words, in the silence of solitude.

There are still other emphases we may find encouraging in our walk with God, some more helpful to us at one time and others at other times.

Still none are able adequately to describe the fullness of the possibilities of our relationship with our God, infinite and eternal.

Some people prefer praising God for who He is and what He does.

Others have emphasized waiting on God. Andrew Murray has a wonderful little book of that title.

And the list goes on. The most basic probably is trusting God, then giving thanks, hoping in God, rejoicing in God, coming to Him, looking to Him, listening to Him, receiving from Him.

We fellowship and commune with God . . . It's Love. Not just our love to Him, but far more importantly, His love for us.

Use your concordance or Nave's Topical Bible. Look up the scriptures, and be blessed. Start with Matthew 11:28,29: "Come unto me all ye that labor."

Jesus Christ - the King of kings and Lord of lords!

Contact Us:

We truly would love to hear from you. Please feel free to share your prayer requests, praise reports, questions or thoughts with us. Please click on the link below to send us an e-mail.

ChristLife.inc@gmail.com

Great is Thy Faithfulness!