

St. Timothy's Banner

Thanksgiving 2022



Ps 23:5b You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

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The Anointing

By Do Fox

Those who know Me
Can understand these words I said to David.
Though a lowly shepherd
He felt and saw Me in his life.
Was it not the shepherds
That saw Heaven open,
And heard the angels rejoicing
In the Saviour's birth?
Just so, those who are not great in their own eyes
Have room in their hearts
For My Love and Presence.
Humility is the oil that crowns My chosen ones!
There is room in such a heart
For the oil of gladness, the cup of joy!
How I long for all My people
To know the truth that transforms,
To long for the magnitude of Sonship.
You are My child, and I am your Father!
There is no thing about you
That I do not know.
Rejoice in Me, as I rejoice in you.
Keep My Words close to your heart,
And you will, indeed,
Walk in the Royalty
That I have bestowed on you!



“...give thanks in all circumstances...”

(1.Thes. 5:18).

By Maria Endresen



My father was a gifted musician. He had a dream of having a small orchestra that would play in churches and worship the Lord. Having four children and one wife we were to be the first five members of that dream team. So what did he do first? He signed his children for the music lessons. That's where the nightmare of my childhood started, and not only mine, but all seven piano teachers in the long seven years, (a new teacher every year because no one could listen to me playing for more than one year). I pleaded with my dad every year to let me quit. I told him how frustrated the teachers were with me and how one teacher hit my fingers with a stick, another telling me to put my hands in hot water so they're not so stiff, and put my head under an ice cold shower so my head can think fresh. But my dad was firm. So I stayed on until graduation. At the end from all those years of training I played piano with my dad maybe once. I believe it was Silent Night at a Christmas service.

Fast forward 35 years later. After Lois Sumner, and then, Pastor Alan Cameron passed away, there was a need for a piano player at the Manoir Kirkland senior's service. There wasn't anyone available, so my husband suggested I begin doing it since he knew I had taken the piano lessons. It wasn't easy to say yes but I reasoned that most seniors have hearing problems so I would try. I've been playing now for some years.

Was I thankful to my parents for making me taking piano lessons? No ...definitely not at time when I was taking them. At that time I was very upset and complained a lot. I believed that my dad was lacking compassion. Am I thankful now? Yes, with my whole

heart. Unfortunately it took me some 35 years to get there.

This story came to my mind as I was thinking about thankfulness, namely the command in 1.Thes. 5:18 “give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.” Am I thankful to the Lord in all the circumstances, or acting towards Him the same way as I was towards my dad?

It is natural to give thanks to God when He provides for us in circumstances of need especially when he does so speedily. I remember when Dan and I borrowed the Meier's big van so we could pick up Bishop Charlie at the airport along with some of our parishioners to bring them from the West Island to our annual Parkside Ranch retreat .We were in a hurry to be on time at the airport. I loaded the van with our bags, slammed the doors shut and ran into the house to get some last things. When I returned and tried to open the door, it was locked – all five of them – and the only key we had was in the ignition. Here we were in time pressure, on our farm far away from any CAA service, without any skills of how to unlock car doors and so we prayed, eagerly, and my husband somehow miraculously opened the side door. You could hear our shouts of hallelujah. How thankful we were to the Lord all that weekend.

It is also easy to give thanks to the Lord when He manifests His goodness in times when we fear for our loved ones lives, like when our son Jacob, who, not only survived a heart surgery but hasn't been needing any medications or any other surgery so far. Or when, the pedal boat flipped over at the Fox's during our church summer get together, and

Elizabeth and Aleah, who were still little and not swimmers, plunged in the water with the rest of us. The Lord spared their lives. How thankful we were!

It doesn't take a long meditation or effort to be thankful for my health after visiting the sick in the hospital, or being thankful for my family after talking to someone lonely. Or being thankful for peace in our country as I learn about escalating war in Ukraine, or for my meal and roof over my head as I sit in my comfortable chair with my supper plate on my lap watching news about an earthquake in Afghanistan, where people are already suffering from hunger and the suicide bombers and more. (Yes I confess that sometimes I eat my supper while watching news.) But be thankful in all circumstances?

As we read God's word we notice that the Lord is asking us to do more than what is naturally possible. Anyone who tries hard and follows the advice of a self-help guru can achieve what is naturally possible. Jesus is asking us to do what is naturally impossible. Look at the previous verse 16. "Be always joyful, pray without ceasing". That's not in mans power.

So how can we be thankful in time of a sickness, disappointment, loss, death of a child...? I can't say that I am an expert and give the full answer as I haven't experienced the worse of circumstances. But in my limited experience I can see firstly that it is not in my nature and if I would try I would fail very quickly. Secondly, I know that the Lord will not ask me to do something if He wouldn't provide the way and the resources. In my limited experience I have come to understand that it is by giving my heart, mind and will to Jesus that the Holy Spirit confirms in me that the Lord is good towards me no matter what circumstance I am in and takes away my natural doubt. No matter how I feel, I ask the Holy Spirit to give me faith that God is in control and that good things will come out of my circumstance. I ask Him to impart

Rom. 8:28, into my whole being as a living word that I can stand on and not use it only as a quick band aid. All that leads to thanksgiving.

I might see those "good things" in a near future, after "35" years, or only in eternity. I might benefit from them in my lifetime or someone else in the next generation might. That isn't that important. What matters is my choice. Do I want to obey God's command and ask for equipping me to go on in obedience, or do I choose to look at my circumstance and say I can't believe that a good God would allow something like that. The first choice will bring me closer to God and to the greater knowledge of Him. The second will leave me with a bitter heart and wrong image of God. May God grant us all a willing heart to obey Him and make the right choice.

Autumn Beauty

By Do Fox

The treasures of September
Are many, rich, and free,
The purple asters beckon,
And blue skies shine on me.

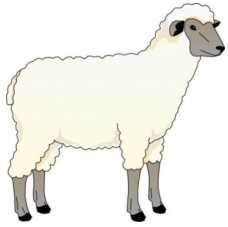
The days are warm and bugless,
As we walk the forest paths,
The leaves begin their colour
And they flutter as we pass.

The lake becomes a mirror
Full of bright, sparkling, gems,
As sun and wind weave magic,
That deserves a sweet Amen.

This special time will always
Sing calm music to my soul,
As the summer ends in triumph
Before winter takes its toll.



THANKSGIVING



By Harn Yawnghwe



When we think of Thanksgiving, we generally think about the Pilgrim settlers coming to North America in the 1600s. Some claim that the first celebration of Thanksgiving in North America occurred in 1579 on the voyage of Martin Frobisher from England searching for the Northwest Passage.

But thanksgiving to God or a divine entity is common among most religions around the world at harvest time and other special occasions. In general, man is acknowledging that he is not in control of the elements and he is grateful for the conditions that have made it possible for him to survive another year.

The first Thanksgiving ever recorded in human history is in Genesis 4 where Cain and Abel bring their offering to God, although we seldom refer to that passage when we talk about Thanksgiving.

For myself, I have always been troubled by the passage in Genesis 4:3-4. Although I understand that Abel's offering of the firstlings of his flock is a foreshadowing of the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus, God's treatment of Cain and Abel seemed unfair. After all, Cain is a farmer, how could he make a blood offering? Non-Christians have also called the Christian God blood-thirsty, for choosing Abel over Cain. Was it really about God not accepting an offering of the fruits of the earth versus a blood offering?

I have heard of a different explanation based on Scripture. All English translations clearly

state that Cain brought some fruit of the ground, while Abel brought the firstlings of his flock. God was a priority for Abel. He brought his best as an offering to God. Whereas Cain brought some fruit of the ground. His offering to God was nothing special. He had no real regard for God. He just did what was required.

Hebrews 11:4 also makes this clear - "By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings." God's judgement is not based on what we do but based on our motivation, our attitude. Heb 11:6 also says, "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

I find this very reassuring. God was judging Cain based on his attitude and not because he did not bring an animal offering. God is not bloodthirsty nor an unfair God. What happened with Cain and Abel exactly fits God's character.

This, raises other questions about our Christian life. What kind of offerings do we bring God, not only at Thanksgiving but in our lives in general? Is God a priority for us? Do we give Him our best? Or do we give him some of our life, or even the left-overs? It is a sobering thought; it is appropriate for us to reflect on our offering to God at this Thanksgiving. Forgive us Lord for we have sinned – Amen.

Know Your Bible Sections



One way to divide the Bible into sections is to categorize them by type of writing.

- | | | |
|------------|-------------------|---------------|
| A. LAW | D. MAJOR PROPHETS | G. ACTS |
| B. HISTORY | E. MINOR PROPHETS | H. EPISTLE |
| C. WISDOM | F. GOSPELS | I. REVELATION |

See if you can match the section to the details given below

- ___ 1. The story of Hosea and Gomer
- ___ 2. John's version of the future from the island of Patmos
- ___ 3. Solomon's great sayings
- ___ 4. The story of the exodus of God's people from Egypt
- ___ 5. The calling of the disciples
- ___ 6. The songs and poems of David and others
- ___ 7. The story of the Babylonian captivity and return to Israel
- ___ 8. The most complete story of the beginnings of the Christian church
- ___ 9. The Beatitudes of Jesus
- ___ 10. The great prophecy of Jesus's birth in Bethlehem
- ___ 11. The story of the creation of the world
- ___ 12. Jonah's adventure in Nineveh
- ___ 13. The details of Saul's persecution and then his salvation
- ___ 14. The promise of a new heaven and new earth
- ___ 15. The story of Abraham moving from Ur to the area of the promised land
- ___ 16. The details about church leadership in the Christian church
- ___ 17. Daniel's stories of heroism
- ___ 18. Nehemiah's concern for the building the wall of Jerusalem
- ___ 19. The story of Jesus's birth, life, death, and resurrection
- ___ 20. The rise of the kingdom era of Israel and Judah

Submitted by Barrie Fox

1.E 2.I 3.C 4.A 5.F 6.C 7.B 8.G 9.F 10.E 11.A 12.E 13.G 14.I 15.A 16.H 17.D 18.B 19.F 20.B



My experience at Frontier Lodge

By Aleah Endresen, a.k.a Jet

This past summer I worked at camp for 3 weeks. I had already been at Frontier Lodge, but only one week as a camper a couple of years ago, so this was a lot different. I wasn't that nervous because I knew Jesus was with me. I was pretty excited because I would be surrounded with young Christians like me. It was such a different and amazing experience, and I'm glad to be sharing it in this article.

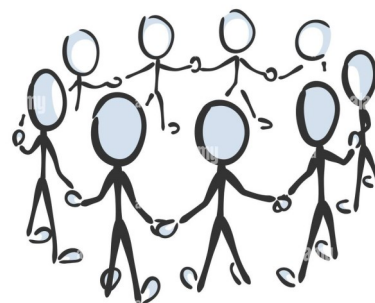
Even if I wasn't nervous for camp, the first day was pretty hard, but it's tough for everyone. I had applied for either counselor or for kitchen staff, and for that first week, I was on day camp. When I first got there, I helped my sister Ariel with decorations because she was the art coordinator. Then later I was helping with kitchen staff. I helped them at supper even if I didn't have to, and I made a couple of friends. The problem was, they were all close friends and have known each other for weeks. Later I had a meeting with the Day Camp staff during supper. Everyone was there already, but the meeting didn't start yet. I sat down on the couch next to these two older girls and looked around the room. A lot of the people in the room looked very close to each other once again, but someone caught my eye. A girl with blonde hair was sitting on the couch facing me. Soon the meeting began and I found out that that blonde girl would be my co-counselor. Her camp name was River and she was about 18 years old. Little did I know that River would become one of my best friends, inside and outside camp. When the meeting finished, I went to go see Ariel, who was doing worship practice in the chapel. When I came in, she decided that practice was over and we went to go talk. I told her how hard I thought it would be and how everyone was already close. Ariel later took me to the place where she was staying, which was upstairs to my place, and she was telling me a lot about camp as we sat on her couch. Then later, the girl who was in charge of day camp, who lived there with Ariel, came to join us. She saw my list of campers and was telling me about them so I could get a good idea of what they were like. That helped me a lot, and later I went to go downstairs to my place because it was getting late. When I walked in, I saw a lot of the girls in one room, just talking. I decided to join them so that I could get to know them. I didn't speak much, but only about 3 of the 7 girls were talking a lot. Most of us went to bed after that, and the next morning we had to wake up at 6:00 am to do maintenance. It wasn't the best job in the world, but I didn't mind it so much. On the application I confirmed

that I would be okay with any job I was given, and that's what I did. Soon the day campers came to camp by bus, and that day was a bit much. River and I barely spoke. She was nice and all, but I felt that it was a bit awkward for no reason. I also thought that she didn't like me because I wouldn't talk much to the kids at breakfast. I thought that she thought I wasn't doing my job right. Just in case those thoughts were true, I tried doing the best job possible. That night I had a bible study while all the regular campers slept. The bible study was for all of the junior staff, meaning me and a couple of other girls. It went well, and just before that I spoke to a couple of younger staff; especially a girl who worked on kitchen, and one on day camp, who I didn't speak much to before. I felt very good in bible study. It was really a place that we could all trust and pray for each other. At the end, the leader asked if anyone would like to pray. I volunteered, even if it was my first day. I don't pray out loud often, only with my family, but I just trusted this group so much that I did. When the meeting was over, I went back to my place and got ready for bed feeling good about the week ahead of me. That night, two of the day camp junior counselors weren't feeling well, so they had to take Covid tests and quarantine for the next day. The next morning at our morning day camp meeting, we were a bit stressed because we were two counselors down. But thanks to God, later when we met up at 5:00pm when the day campers left, we all gave reports of how it went. We all said that that day was amazing and actually, it was the best of the week. The girl in charge of day camp also told us that thanks to our hard work, the next day she was going to treat us to Coaticook ice cream in town. Also that evening, I was supposed to have a talk with one of the two girls in charge of day camp about just life in general. The chat went really well and I was glad we got to know each other better, since we had already met each other once at a wedding. That night the older staff had their bible study while I started becoming friends with the younger staff. It was weird for them because I seemed to have broken out of my shell a lot, but not entirely, but on Wednesday, that changed. Even as I was getting a bit closer to the staff, it still wasn't clicking well. On Wednesday, after all the kids left on the day camp bus, River and I were asked to take four of the day camp kids, (two of whom were the cooks' kids), to their little cottage, about a seven-minute walk from the camp. We talked to the kids, which was especially great because two of them only spoke little English and a lot of Ukrainian, so they taught us a few Ukrainian words. On the walk back,

River and I spoke more to each other. Just as we arrived at the camp, River said to me how she thought I was a cool person and that she liked me. This was such shocking news to me because I thought River thought I was annoying. Apparently, I found out two weeks ago from today that River thought the same things about me that I did about her; that she thought that I didn't like her. That's when River and my friendship began. Later we went to go get ice cream, and when we got back, I was full and couldn't even eat supper. As someone who has a lot of stomach aches, I was blessed to get only two small ones for a little amount of time out of the whole three weeks! Anyways, at 7:30 it was time for Ariel's worship practice so I went to go join by just sitting on a chair in the chapel. I was kind of sad because I still wasn't close to working on day camp and it was already Wednesday. So I prayed that something would happen. A minute later I heard someone walk inside the chapel and sit next to me. It was a girl I had never met, but I knew she was a counselor for residential campers. So we introduced ourselves and she asked me if I wanted to go outside to talk. I immediately said yes. She was on break, but later it was time for the campfire and I was really happy to go join even though most of day camp staff usually doesn't. And later there'd be a hangout for junior residential counselors and other kind of staff. So me and Alaska, (the girl's camp name), talked for a while and she quickly became my friend. After that, I came to the realization that just because I couldn't get close with the day camp staff, it didn't mean that it would be hard to become friends with people from other kinds of staff. I told Alaska about that and she told me that she used to be on day camp staff and that she also couldn't click with them, which explains why we got along so well. After that, when Alaska had to get back to work, I found River and started acting a lot more energetic. I started going up to random staff and talking with them. I made so many new friends. And a funny story, River and I went to the office, where there are couches and a fridge and other stuff, because she had 7up in the fridge, but she accidentally put it in the freezer. So as River and I were dressed up in hats and sunglasses, we started putting our accessories on the big soda bottle, too, and we named the soda bottle Charles. It was frozen and so I was trying to find ways to make it unfreeze. I opened it but River was scared that the soda would go everywhere. So I opened it outside on the porch, and with River's permission, dropped it from the small height, and brought it back up on the side of the porch, where drops of soda started spilling out. I went next to below the porch so I could have some soda, and one of my future friends who I didn't necessarily meet at the time named Pelican, joined me. It was such a funny part of the week. And for the campfire, I was in the front row with Alaska

and her campers, yelling out the lyrics to the camp songs. It was really amazing. Later at the hangout, we talked and played cards, and Pelican dyed his hair pink!! It was so funny, and I was so happy that I got close to more people. The next two weeks that I worked went by so quickly. I worked on kitchen staff, and then on day camp again. It was filled with dance parties, jumping into the lake fully clothed, shaving cream, musical chairs, serving day campers croutons with cheese only, and more!! Near the end of the last week, I got covid, but I tried staying positive throughout (pun unintended). For example, I didn't see it as bad necessarily. Since I got it from a day camper, I viewed it as a good way of me playing with that day camper. I had those thoughts in my head the entire time. I also liked how I got to reflect more on my entire 3 weeks, and I noticed how much has changed since the first week --like to think that at the very start of camp at my meetings, I would go earlier and then go to worship practice, and at the end of my second day camp week, I was actually late because I was talking with the friends God had blessed me with!! I also liked thinking about all of the kids that came to day camp. There was this one girl who became Christian after our little devotions time, and that was so amazing! I was so glad I got to witness to her at the start of her journey with Jesus. God was with me through those three weeks, and I felt it. It was such an amazing experience I can't wait to go next year. I'm so thankful for all the fun I had, even if at times it could be tricky. There's a picture on a brochure for frontier lodge at our church where I see some of my friends from camp, and I love how every time I see that picture, I get reminded of my journey there. I've written a lot now, but not all, so if you want to hear more about my camp, you can always ask me about it because I love talking about it!! (My mom is very aware of that, she listens to it a lot)

Here are some pictures from camp too:





River and I at a Saturday camp fire

My friend Mouse and I sneaking into the kitchen at night



Breakfast and Jet



The pretty sky and lake

Shaving cream musical chairs!!!



Dying hair!!!



Collective Effort is a song made at camp!



Pebbles, Jet, Minnie, River and Marvel eating birthday cake in town



Children are the love of our lives!



The boss wondered why one of his most valued employees was absent but had not phoned in sick.

So he dialed the employee's home phone number after a number of rings he was answered by child's whisper

Hello!

'Is your daddy home?'

Small voice whispered,
' *Yes, he's out in the garden,*

May I talk with him?
The child whispered,

' *No.* '

So the boss asked, '
'well, is your Mommy there?'

' *Yes she's out in the garden too* '

The boss asked; 'May I talk with her?'
Again ' *No* '

Hoping there was somebody with whom he could leave a message, the boss asked, 'Is anybody else there?'

' *Yes,* ' whispered the child, ' *a policeman.* '

Wondering what a cop would be doing at his employee's home, the boss asked, 'May I speak with the policeman?'

' *No, He's busy,* ' whispered the child.

'Busy doing what?'

' *Talking to Daddy and Mommy and the police dog men.* '

Growing more worried as he heard a loud noise in the background, the boss asked, 'What is that noise?'

' *It's a helicopter* ' answered the whispering voice.

'What is going on there?' demanded the boss, now truly apprehensive.

' *The search team just landed a helicopter* '

'A search team?' said the boss. 'What are they searching for?'

Still whispering, the young voice replied with a muffled giggle.... ' *ME* '

Submitted by Carolyn White




Irish Humour



Irish Craic and Humour Craic O'Doyle

The brain is the most amazing organ. It works 24 hours a day, 365 days a year from birth until you fall in love.



irishcraicandhumour.com

Paddy is doing some roofing for murphy.

He nears the top of the ladder and starts shaking and going dizzy.

He calls down to murphy and says, "I tink I will ave to go home, I've gone all giddy and I feel sick."

murphy asks, "Ave yer got vertigo, paddy?"

paddy replies, "No, I only live around the corner."

Irish Craic and Humour


I don't like to think before I speak...

I like to be just as surprised as everyone else about what I say.

irishcraicandhumour.com

Irish Logic! Craic O'Doyle

I always found it a bit confusing when the teacher would say "Don't get smart with me!"



irishcraicandhumour.com

Craic O'Doyle

IRISH:
Irish Craic and Humour

I had the right to remain silent... but being IRISH I didn't have the ability!

Irish Craic and Humour 



"Mr. Murphy, "I have reviewed this case very carefully" the divorce court judge said, "And I have decided to give your wife £775 a week."

"That's very fair your honor" the husband said, "And every now and then I will try to send her a few quid myself"

Submitted by Carolyn White

