



November 19, 2020

Hello Bethel!

This week Pastor Geoff is doing an Express video along with the text. You can view his message by clicking on the link below.

<https://youtu.be/L-tmtevt8do>

Is your Christmas tree up yet? I have heard the debate that it's not time yet-enjoy Thanksgiving! I have also heard that in this year of chaos, it's time to enjoy the things that Christmas brings-so bring on the ornaments! No matter where you land on that debate, this time of the year should lead to a place of being thankful and it should be filled with joy. I know that my life has been blessed by those that have displayed generosity, gratitude and hospitality. Deb and I were talking about these characteristics, and came to this conclusion.

- Generosity is about opening your hands to help those around you with whatever resources you may have.
- Gratitude is about opening your heart to others in appreciating what someone brings into your life.

- Hospitality is about opening your life to others so that they feel welcome and valued for who they are.

This is a time when Christ followers should display all of these character qualities. As we come into contact with others in the midst of chaos and celebration, we can be salt and light that God empowers by sharing with others generously, being grateful for what they bring to our life, and sharing with them the Gospel, and also our very lives (1Thessalonians 2:8). Deb and I have experienced this from you, our faith family here at Bethel, and we are grateful for your kindness.

We wish for you a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas season. It is a great time for us to share the love of Jesus in a very real way with those around us. Please be safe and stay healthy during this time. Come to church when you can, and connect online if you need to stay home. We understand whatever choice you make.

1 Thessalonians 5:16 Always be joyful. 17 Never stop praying. 18 Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.