



Family, Food, and Football—these are the things that make up my memories of Thanksgiving's past. We would all get together, eat way more than we should. The family would then split up into teams and the annual Great Safford Football Game would begin. I don't remember who won because what mattered was whether Nebraska won their big game that weekend. One year my dad had us start a new tradition. We had to go around the table and say what we were grateful for. For some reason, that means more to me today than it did at the time.

Over time, I have learned that gratitude is what begins the journey of healing from brokenness. I have heard it said that forgiveness unlocks gratitude and gratitude unleashes lavish love (McManus-Uprising). When we express genuine gratitude, we are not slaves to bitterness. Bitterness leaves us living in the past, where gratitude allows us to enjoy the present and keeps us looking to what is ahead in the future. Paul speaks of a spirit of gratitude in Colossians. He also speaks of love and peace in the same passage.

Colossians 3:14 Above all, put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. 15 And let the peace of Christ, to which you were also called in one body, rule your hearts. And be thankful (CSB).

Maybe my Thanksgivings need to be known for something besides family, food, and football? It might be a lot healthier for me to think Gratitude, Grace, and Generosity. When we are grateful, we give, forgive, and live with different motives.

As we enter this week, let's remember to have an attitude of gratitude.

Pastor Geoff



No CLUB Nov. 24

Please join us THIS FRIDAY, November 19, at 6 pm
in the Quad room at Bethel Church to pack up gift boxes.
Soup and drinks will be provided. Snacks to go along are welcome.



We're not done yet and we need your help.

- ~ 1 p.m., Sunday, November 21, to load Bethel Church's boxes
 - ~ 1 p.m., Monday, November 22, to load area Churches' boxes
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Bethel Praise Kids is inviting all Preschool age children to perform two traditional Christmas carols prior to the Bethel Praise Kids Christmas Program



- Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m.
(immediately following church service)
- Saturday, December 4 at 9:45 a.m.
- Sunday, December 5 at 1:45 p.m.
- Saturday, December 11 at 9:45 a.m.

All of these practices will be approximately 15-20 minutes. Your preschooler is encouraged to attend as many practices as they are able.

We look forward to helping your preschooler learn these songs to perform on Sunday, December 12 at 10:45 am! Questions may be directed to Amber Willard, Praise Kids Director, at 308.660.4323.

We'd love to consider your photos for our social media pages and Sunday's information cards. If you have a current photo relevant to our Bethel Faith Family that we could share, send it to jlowe@betheln.org. Be sure to ask permission of anyone in the photos.