

# Thankful

Oasis: Scripture Guide

November 24, 2015

With Thanksgiving under way it is easy to think that we will spend time giving thanks for blessings in our life. It is easy to say, I will spend time doing that tomorrow and then pretty soon it is Christmas and we are in the hustle and bustle.

With the busyness of cleaning the house for guests, grocery shopping for a Thanksgiving meal, packing up our kids and luggage to head out to our family's for the week, take a moment to give thanks.

Holidays are a complex time. There is this assumption that we must be full of thanks at Thanksgiving and full of joy at Christmas; however, holidays can bring sadness for those we have lost this year that will no longer be in our holiday plans, or stress that we do not have the finances we would desire to make this holiday easier or we are just gloomy because the days are short and the nights are long.

Wherever you are on this Thanksgiving week I want to encourage you to find one thing for which to give thanks, and if you have a long list that is excellent, but don't feel bad if you can only muster one.

Take a moment to think through what you are thankful for. If you so desire you can write these down on the back of this sheet.

*Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!*

Psalm 107:1

*I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations. For your steadfast love is great above the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.*

Psalm 108:3-4

*Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

Colossians 3:15-17

If you would like to remember someone who is no longer with us this Thanksgiving season,  
there are unlit candles in the middle of the aisle up front.

Feel free at any time to go forward and light a candle for those people.

Holiday seasons can be difficult,

let's remember with thankful hearts those who have gone before us.

Open our eyes Lord to see all of the blessings in our lives. Give us a humble heart to recognize your gifts even amidst the busyness and the distractions of life. This week remind me to be thankful and to rest in you. Speak to me in the unlikely places and in unlikely ways.

Thank you for your presence in my life.

Amen.

