

THANKSGIVING

With Thanksgiving next week, all around people begin to ask themselves what they are truly thankful for. Commercials and TV shows depict families and friends coming together and reflecting on how thankful they are for each other. Take a moment and ask yourself, what are you truly thankful for? Maybe it is your family and friends, like many of the commercials show on TV. Maybe it is your success in your career or the fact that you have a home and a car. You might simply be thankful that you can pay your bills and have food at the end of the day. Regardless of what we are truly thankful for, I have a feeling that our lists and Paul's wouldn't read quite the same.

In **2 Corinthians 12:10**, Paul says "Therefore I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in distresses, in persecutions, in difficulties, in behalf of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong." When you take this passage, and read it slowly, you begin to see a quite different thanksgiving list than what we usually think about today. For example, how could anyone take delight or be thankful about having weaknesses. We don't often find joy in our inability to produce results. As a matter of fact, in our society, we mostly judge the success of an individual based on their strengths and success. But, if this seems strange already, it only gets stranger.

How could anyone be thankful or find delight in insults? I don't know of anyone who just likes to be treated harshly or put down all the time. In our society today, there are many who cannot even function without words of encouragement from others. They spend all their time at school, work, or on social media seeking that positive affirmation from anyone. Paul goes on to say that he delights in distresses. You know, we are living in a time right now where the mere cost of even our necessities is becoming overwhelming. We hear about it on the news, and I don't hear anyone talking about inflation and the cost of things in a positive light. Yet, Paul took pleasure in those times when the necessities of life were scarce.

Paul goes on to say that he delights in persecutions and difficulties. I don't think anyone delights in any form of persecution, but especially when you read all of the difficulties and persecution that Paul actually went through in **2 Corinthians 11:16-29**, and compare that to the persecutions and difficulties that we go through, it is quite humbling. Imagine being pressed in on every side so much so that there is no escape. It was in those

periods in his life where Paul found delight. Times when his enemies pushed hard against him.

It sounds crazy that someone would be content, delighted, and even thankful for all of the things that Paul listed, but in order to understand Paul's list of thanksgiving, we must look at the second half of the verse. The reason that Paul found delight in those things is because "when I am weak, then I am strong." Notice what Paul says there. He is actually talking about the same time. He is saying that "when" he is weak, "then" he is strong. He isn't saying that he was weak at times and then looking back on the situation "after" I became strong. He is saying that at the time of his greatest weakness, he had his greatest strength.

When life is easy and we have so many great things that we can be thankful for, it becomes easy for us to forget not only who has blessed us with those gifts, but we can begin to forget how important living close to God is. On the other hand, when times are tough and there is constant struggle and unpleasant moments in life, we tend to feel our need for God more and turn to Him. **James 4:6-8** says "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded." When we draw near to God, he draws near to us. James also tells us in **James 1:2-4** "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." We can be joyful when we go through various trials and hardships because the result of those trials strengthen us and bring us to spiritual maturity. So, in light of what Paul is truly thankful for, might I propose that we take a moment as well and realize that some of the best times in our lives is actually when we are having trials, because in those trials, the strength of God is seen all the more.

Andrew Spivey

Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES Sunday Read – Luke 19:1-28 Wednesday Read – Review of Jesus, Peter, and Paul.

Questions for last week's reading of;

Matthew 19 & Mark 10:32-52.

1. What is the one reason God says a husband and wife can divorce?
2. Why did the rich young ruler go away sad?
3. When James and John asked to sit on either hand of Jesus in His kingdom, what was Jesus' answer; and what did he mean?
4. How did Jesus say we could become great?
5. Why did Jesus come to earth?

THANK YOU

Nashville Road, Thank you so much for the thoughts, prayers, food and cards that were sent while I was sick and recovering from surgery! I am finally well now! God is so good and I'm thankful to be a part of the congregation here at Nashville Road. I love you all!

Taylor Spivey

LADIES BIBLE CLASS

The next Ladies Bible class will be on **Tuesday November 28th at 6:00 pm**. The class will be studying the book "Lace Up Those Sneakers." Books will be provided.

COOKIES WITH SANTA

Saturday December 16th at 1:00pm..Santa will be here at Nashville Road to visit, take pictures and have milk and cookies. Make plans to bring your children to see Santa.



Church office will be closed November 23rd & 24th

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

November 19, 2023

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Kevin Siler
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Rick Gallagher
Scripture Reading.....Corey Nelsen
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Bob Brown
Lord's Supper.....Tony Butler
Servers.....K. Veale, M. Lyle, C. Newby
C. Seals, B. Sever, A. Williamson

Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Fate Evans

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....Rick Gallagher
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Jim Cherry
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Garrett Rowlett
Closing Prayer.....David Johnson

WEDNESDAY

November 22, 2023

7:00 PM

Welcome.....Rick Gallagher
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Don Wilson
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Brent Smith
Door Greeters – West Door.....Z/A Tooley
East Door.....L/J Clark
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Sherry Perry

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

Nashville Road Church of Christ
 1883 Nashville Pike
 Gallatin, TN 37066
 Web Site: nashvilleroad.org
 E-mail: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

SICK LIST

Marilee Frederick is back at Gallatin Rehab, Room 417 under hospice care. **Maxine Cothron** has been diagnosed with vitreous hemorrhage. She has been referred to an eye surgeon. **Tom & Faye Hart**, both having health issues. **James Spivey** has been diagnosed with lung cancer and has begun his radiation treatments. **Tony Perry**, husband of Sherry Perry & son of Betty Buttrey, has been diagnosed with liver cancer. **Dixie Elam**, wife of Demar Elam, is home recovering from back surgery. Please keep them in your prayers. **Heather Lemley** daughter of Michael & Cathy Lemley, had surgery for breast cancer. **Bethany Shoulders** granddaughter of Evelyn Harris has been diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. She is home now and will continue with treatments. **Mike Martin**, friend of the Jennings & Cato families, continues to not do well.

SHUT-INS

Marilee Frederick, Gallatin Center 438 N. Water Ave, Room 417;
Jane Hughes, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **Melba Hill**.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	115
Morning Worship.....	154
Sunday Evening.....	85
Wednesday Evening.....	61
Contribution.....	\$6,367.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$3,656.00

PRAYER LIST

Anita Cato; **Shauna Lockett**; **Jean Knowles**; **Zach Tooley**; **Mary Ann Reinhart**; **Vetrus Mee**, Charter Senior Living of Gallatin; **Shelby Ross**; **Sandi Jones**; **Lena Baggett**; **Maxine Cothron**; **Francis Catron**; **Jean Deaton**; **Charlie Cliburn**; **Bryan Grissom** cousin to Joyce Clark & Robbie Glover; **Vycki Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; **Ty Tyler** son of Ann Tyler; **Wade & Wanda Kennedy** parents of Diana Stephenson; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Janice Haskins**, sister of Jim Cherry; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill; **Aza Topik**, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals; **Betty Ann Muncie**, sister of Stella Messer.

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621

Deacons

Carl Newby	Jonathan Senn	Brent Smith
Eric Stephenson	Ken Veale	Adam Williamson

Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

1883 Nashville Pike
 Gallatin, TN 37066

Phone (615) 452-3431
 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30. p.m.

Web Site: www.nashvilleroad.org
 Email: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister
GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister