

11-16-25 Message Family

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Thankfulness, Grace giving, Family, Marriage, Generational curses, Nuclear family, Communism goals, Spiritual foundation, Timothy, Church family, Thanksgiving, Parental influence, Biblical references, Salvation, Rightly dividing.

SPEAKERS

Pastor Dow Boyer, Speaker 1

Anyway, now we're excited to keep having this discussion about things we are thankful for this month, and we've already talked about a couple very important things we're going to build off that. However, I did have a conversation with a deacon on our deacons meeting Thursday night that I thought we might need to clear this up a little bit so on the grace giving challenge, some of you guys like, oh, turn me off already. But anyway, they said, Well, I was just putting some extra money on my offering, and that's how I was doing it. And I said, Well, don't do that. I'm not telling somebody, don't give, but I'm saying the reason that there's a bucket on the website and that there's a line on the envelope is because we will know that money is designated towards that and we're putting that in a separate account for next summer. So if you're just adding it to we will have no clue, except for that you were more generous, we will have no clue where to put that extra money. So that's why the lines on there on the envelope? If you have questions, you can see me, Bill, or any of the team, or online, there's a separate bucket for Grace giving. So we're doing well. We've got, I think, over 5000 now, and we still got several weeks left. So just continue to be challenged with that. Pray through there. And I think it's just something that you purpose in your heart, be generous, and we'll see what the Lord does with it. So anyway, thought I'd clear that up. But anyway, well, we've been talking about being thankful, and for this month, Thanksgiving is my favorite day of the year, and so I thought I have the pulpit. I'm going to make the rules. So this is what we're going to talk about this month. But in all seriousness, I was really praying through this. I think it's so important. I mean, not that we should just say we're only thankful one day of the year. In fact, I think a lot of our prayers and this dispensation of grace is us thanking God, right? And so we should always be thankful. In fact, in First Thessalonians, 5:18, we're told in everything, give thanks. Now next part says, For this is the will of God in Christ, Jesus, concerning you, there are these places in scripture where Paul just says, this is the will of God. You know, there was other times in Scripture where people are rolling lots and they're trying to go the priest, they're trying to figure out what the will of God is. But there are times where Paul just says, Yep, this is the will of God to give thanks. It's not merely a suggestion. It's not a good idea. It's not how to have a long healthy life. It is the will of God that we give thanks. And I'm thinking, Wow, that's pretty important, that we should do that then, right? Ephesians 5:20 says, Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. So first week I came right out of the gate. And thing that I think is important is we kind of set this standard for what we can talk about this week was being thankful for grace. We understand that this dispensation of grace, Ephesians, two, two that Paul says, if you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God, which is given me to you word, and I talked about what that actually meant, right? We know we're

saved by grace, but what does it mean to actually walk in grace, to live in grace, and to dispense grace to other people? And we kind of wrapped it up with kind of this picture of how we have God, the Father. And you can imagine in Revelation chapter 12, the Satan coming and making accusations against us. But because of the finished work of the Cross, we know from First Timothy two five, there is one God, one mediator between God and man, the man, Christ, Jesus, and that in that courtroom today, that God would look and say, but they're covered under the blood. In fact, he would look at Satan and say, You're not a credible witness, and he would go down the list, and he would say, You're a robber, you're a murderer, you're a liar, you're a thief, and you're not allowed in here. You're not even allowed in the courtroom. You're not even a credible witness. This is what we have today in grace. In fact, today there's no sin being imputed unto us. We've had we've been totally forgiven. If we're a child of God in here today, if we've placed our faith in that death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we've received the atonement. We are now justified with God. We are accepted in the Beloved. There is no condemnation and there is no separation from his love. I would say that starting the month off, saying We are thankful for grace, is a good place to start, so it's only fitting you go right from grace in the marriage right. Last week, we were talking about how important marriage is, and that it's doubled, if not tripled down in Scripture, in Genesis, 224, but there's Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother and they shall cleave unto his wife, they shall be one flesh. The point last week was historically heterosexual, monogamous was always the norm. And you could chase this in all these different cultures, and you would see even these non God believing cultures holding to that norm. Historic. Exactly. And we talked about, where would they have gotten that information from? Well, the Tower of Babel would have had the people at the Tower of Babel would have had that institution in their hearts and in their minds, and then when they were spread out, and that was getting passed down through generations, that's why it was there, because it all held to what God said in the very beginning. Jesus then doubled down on it in Matthew chapter 19, when asked about divorce, Paul triples down on it in Ephesians 531 when he's talking about this mystery of marriage today. So this is kind of where we got to this point. We finished talking about the the singles and the divorce at the end of that, and the grace that comes comes with those positions as well. And the point is that no matter where we are, we can be thankful that we are alive and that we can be doing what God has called us to do in whatever tradition we are in this life. So today, we're going to talk about being thankful for family. Next week, we're going to talk about being thankful for the gospel, and then we're going to finish up by talking about thankful for Rightly dividing. So I hope that this is something that will encourage you the rest of the way. So why don't we pray real quick, and then we'll get right into family, Dear heavenly Father. Thank you for this day. Thank you for this opportunity to open Your Word with the believers. Lord. We just pray today that if there's anyone here who has not placed their faith in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ and that shed blood for payment of their sins. Lord, that today would be the day they would come to the end of themselves. Lord, they would realize that they could never work hard enough. They could never be good enough to get your favor. But Lord, it took you coming down in the form of man to do the hard work, never leaving your deity while doing it. Lord, we thank You, Lord that You made a way. And Lord, as we talk today, Lord, we know that you made a way for family as well. And Lord, we pray that this would be something today that we could be thankful for, and that you would receive all the honor and glory in Jesus name, amen, alright, family, the Webster's dictionary in 1828, it says the collective body of persons who live in one house and under one head or manager a household, including parents, children and servants. And as the case may be, lodgers or boarders. When you look at the definition today in like the Merriam Webster's dictionary, it says a group of persons who come from the same ancestor, it actually would describe tribe or clan as well into this Speaking of which, saw the new Predator movie here recently, and it was interesting that you would have the three people a synth, and I'm gonna say this wrong, yacha, and and then this other alien that they just think. They just called him bud. But anyway, these three came together to make a clan, and that was kind of a big deal in the movie. It was kind of a buddy movie, but buddy movie, but it was about kind of family, a really diverse family, but kind of about family, so maybe worth a shot if you guys are looking for

something to watch. Okay, I'm recommending movies from the pulpit, right? I'm just saying. But more importantly, we look at kind of today, Lord, we can see representations of family everywhere, right? And even right now, we're in the middle of football season, and you have connected teams, and they're referenced even as the announcer saying they're like a family. Same thing with basketball and everything. There's something about a culture that puts people together that are like minded, and they're able to go and do something great together. And it sounds great, but it's really hard to produce. But it's actually God's idea. You know, God said it's not good for man to be alone, and so this was where he says, I'm going to bring a Help me. But then this help me was told to do something that was to be fruitful and multiply. Thus family started think about me, for example, like I'm son of Bill Boyer and Terry Boyer. I mean, that was kind of the start of my story. I remember one time I called one time. I was told my mom, I was like, I'll call you later. And then she looked at me really seriously, and she said, I'd prefer it if you call me mom. Sorry she didn't that didn't happen. You guys know my mom. But anyway, speaking of which, though we'd have funny moment this week where talk about family. I'm sitting in with Donna having a meeting. And Chase comes in, and he says, Dow, it's time to go to lunch. My four year old, and we both looked at each other and looked at him pretty puzzled, what did you say? She goes. He said, Byron, Dow, it's time to go to lunch. So I'm saying that family is a beautiful thing, right? So I have one brother. His name is Todd, and really, I had a cousin who was about as close as a brother. In fact, I think I had two, two of them kind of be co best men in my mind, anyway, of the day that I got married, so many great memories of family growing up and I was, I was a fortunate one. My parents never divorced. Divorced, and I was able to see that part of things. We were close to family, especially on my mom's side, we all lived pretty close together. I married into a family that was extremely close and still to this day, we have lunch together every Sunday. Now that we work together, we have lunch every day. Pretty much we are. I only know what it's like to be having close family, and I'm blessed by that. I know that's not everybody's story. I thank God for it all the time. It's one of the main reasons why Thanksgiving is my favorite day of the year. I mean, there was a time my life where I thought I wasn't going to have that anymore, where all the family was going to be able to come, come together, but God, in His grace and mercy, allowed that to continue to happen. And so it is the day I'm most thankful for, because I never take it for granted that everybody is there in one spot. And it means so much to me now, as we start looking down through history and things like that. We know, obviously George Bush would talk about family a little bit, and he would always pronounce it nuclear family, family, but, but some of you guys don't, don't know what I'm talking about. It's fine. He had all kinds of word slips, but really the term is nuclear family, and that is something that's been attacked for a really long time in this country. I know I bring this up a lot, just because this book is so important, and if you've not read it outside the Bible, but if you've not read it, the naked communist is a very important book, especially in light of where we are today in this country, and who's being elected in certain big cities. But naked communist goal number 40 is discredit the family as an institution, encourage promiscuity and easy divorce. There was a goal by the Communist Party, a satanic goal, that was being done through mankind. And they knew how powerful the nuclear family was, and the only way to really weaken America. One of the main goals was they had to destroy the nuclear family, so their kids wouldn't have a father in the home, so they'd be able to witness single moms raising kids and or different men coming in and out of their lives. Men were no longer being taught how to be men. They were never being shown what it meant to be a man, and then you have two or three generations of this, and you've got a lot of confusion in the world. The other goal dealing with family was 41 there's like, I can't remember. This might be 57 total goals, but 40 and 41 says emphasize the need to raise children away from the negative influence of parents. Is is, do we see that today the safe place is where? Where they tell us the safe place is at for your kids, and what does the school tell us? Not all of them, thank God. But a lot of times, the school is protecting the child and the parents are the bad people. It's a reality, and it didn't just happen. In the early 60s, they said, This is how we're going to destroy America from the inside. This is one of the ways they were going to do it. It says we're going to attribute prejudices, mental blocks and retarding of children to suppressive influence of parents. So the case today. So that's

looking through family family here, and I was thinking back to some conversations I've had over the last few years, and I think there's a little confusion here, but I have one specific friend of mine who is convinced that all these things are happening to people and his children, everything in his family because of a generational curse. And it got me thinking how I could tie this in today. And I ran across another family that you just looked from the outside, and it's like everything that keeps happening to them. You start to wonder is, are there generational curses today? Because everybody in that family, it's like crazy things are happening to and at one point in time, people would say the Kennedy family felt like generational curses being passed down. And so I thought, since we're talking about family, I'm gonna take a few minutes here to talk about this, so you kind of understand what I'm talking about. And you're like, I don't want you to leave here today saying, Man, I've got to clean everything up in my in my household, so there's not this generational curse. I want you to basically see where it's found in Scripture and whether or not it's for us today, and then we're going to pull this together in a nice way at the end. But in the 10 Commandments, even Exodus, chapter 20, verse five, thou shall not bow down thyself to them nor serve them, talking about idols, For I the LORD thy God. I am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me. So this is where it comes from, going back with Israel and the 10 Commandments. In fact, once we had the two new tablets because the other ones were broken. Exodus, 34, seven, keeping mercy. Seat for 1000s, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin that will be by no means clear, the guilty visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and upon the children's children unto the third and the fourth generation, or when they were coming back from the spies being sent out looking at the land. And you've got Caleb and Joshua coming back, and then you see it again. Numbers 14:18, it says The Lord is long suffering and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation, or Deuteronomy, five, nine, when they're reminding of the 10 Commandments, thou shall not bow down, bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them. For I, the LORD thy God, am a jealous God visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me, even Jeremiah, as he's talking about Baruch, and he's mentioning Egypt, he says this in Jeremiah, 32:18 thou showest loving kindness unto 1000s and recompense the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them, the great and the Mighty God, the Lord of hosts, is his name. You see this several times in the Bible. It's always found with Israel and under the law, never found in this dispensation of grace. And we can look even at some of the righteous kings, not just general for the nation, but let's think about this with David. When Nathan confronts him in Second Samuel 12, nine through 14. And he says, we'll start with just nine but says, Wherefore has thou despised the commandment of the Lord to do evil in his sight? Thou hast killed Uriah, the Hittite with a sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and has slain with him the sword of the children of Ammon now, here was the response. Now, therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house, because it goes right back to what God had set up. It was going to be cast down upon the next generation of children and children so the third and fourth generation, he says, Thou hast despised me and has taken the wife of Uriah, the Hittite, to be my wife. Thus saith the Lord. Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house. I will take thy wives before thine eyes and give them unto thy neighbor, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this son, for thou did it secretly. But I will do this thing before all Israel and before let's see. He said this before all Israel and before the sun. David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord. And Nathan said unto David, The Lord also hath put away thy sin. Thou shall not die. And in the Psalms, this is where David's going to talk about, Blessed is the man whose sin is not imputed to him for this specific thing here, not a permanent imputation. But he understood from this here, how be it? Because of this deed, thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die. What about David's son, Solomon? First Kings 11, nine through 12, the Lord was angry with Solomon because his heart was turned from the Lord, God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, and had commanded him concerning this thing that he should not go after other gods, but he kept not that which the Lord commanded, wherefore the Lord said unto Solomon,

for as much as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes which I commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee and will give it to thy servant. Notwithstanding, in thy days, I will not do it for David, thy father's sake, but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son. Kind of getting a feel here for this so that was even with Israel and the kings right. What about the unrighteous kings? A good example is Ahab. He was told that by Elijah, that the dogs will lick your blood. You will lose your posterity. Jezebel will be eaten by dogs. First Kings, 21:17 through 27 through 29 says it came to pass when Ahab heard those words, the prophecy from Elijah that he rent his clothes and put sackcloth upon his flesh and fasted and lay in sackcloth and wept and went softly. And the word of the Lord came to Elijah, the tishbite, saying, Seest thou how Ahab humbled himself before Me? Because he humbled himself before me, I will not bring this evil in his days, but in his son's days, will I bring the evil upon his house? Now maybe ask him why even bring this up, because people will make every excuse possible for their behavior. You. Will say, this thing's happening because there is a curse from God upon my family, and it's been there for three or four generations. It will cause people to live in fear. But the reality is, sin is not being imputed to our account today, or your kids account today. For that matter. Second, Corinthians, 5:19 says, To wit, that God was in Christ reconciled the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Or Colossians, 1:20 when it says, having made peace through the blood of his cry a cross. What peace is there? If every sin that's been committed, God is judging us and those who are coming up behind us, you can't have that peace. It's through the blood of the cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto himself, by him, I say, whether they be things in earth or things in heaven. Now, I absolutely 100% believe parents play a large role in what the kids will end up becoming. That's why the nuclear family is so important. However, I've also seen parents do the right thing and a kid go the wrong direction once they're old enough and make their own decisions, they weren't being cursed by God, but adults make adult decisions. We do everything we can as parents, but when they leave, we can't always control what they're going to do. And I think some people have been living in some shame because of things, maybe that had a pattern that maybe several other kids have been you can always look back and say, What could I have done differently? But if you've done the right things, and you put your kids in a position to succeed, but they have willingly chosen not to, that's not because God is cursing you for something you've done in your past. I think it's important to understand that today, but there are great examples in the Bible of how that family influence has produced the right kind of fruit in the kids. And I think those should be the things that we celebrate today. Let's talk about Timothy, for example. We talked about this a little bit on Wednesday, but says, then came he. This is Acts 16 one. Then came he to Derby and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there named Timothy, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess and believed, but his father was a Greek. Now we're going to look at both a mother and a grandmother, who played a large role in who Timothy was to become, which, by the way, do you know why grandchildren and grandparents get along so well? They have a common enemy. But anyway, I digress. You guys are so gracious to put up with me. Second, I can always tell when I need something to lighten the load, right? Okay. Second, Timothy, one five. Though going back to Timothy, it says when I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee which dwelt first in thy grandmother, Lois and thy mother, Eunice. And I am persuaded that in thee also the foundation was set by, in this case, mother and grandmother. There are several in here. I know, even coming from the youth group, that they would say that the real heroes of the faith that shaped me was mom and dad or grandparents. That would be pretty normal, even when the parents weren't there, the grandparents stepped in and did the job to give the right foundation to make sure that they knew the gospel. You know, I'm reminded it's like, every time that I had the Taylor boys in my small groups, it was like, over and over and over again they would talk about, every time we talk about what they're thankful for, was always Grandma and Papa. And sometimes grandparents are put in a position to step in, do the role that the parents didn't do. And so many of you in here have done that and have shaped the lives of young people. In this case, the father wasn't there, the nuclear family, as far as what it should have been that foundation wasn't there yet. Timothy was not a victim. He wasn't part

of a curse. In fact, Timothy said, I'm not to be blamed. I'm not going to take responsibility for maybe what dad didn't do to teach me, but faith grew in him because people stepped up and gave it to him, even if it wasn't his father. And I wonder if that might be the case. There are you still so angry about the way that you grew up that's keeping you from pursuing the cross and understanding what God has for you? Are you holding on to all this bitterness because you deserved better growing up, that you didn't have the family that so and so had? I wonder. I wonder if there wasn't people around you but you were so connected with just the pain that you had that you never saw, maybe what else was out there trying to influence you in a positive way? It. Timothy didn't reject anything because dad wasn't involved spiritually. In fact, it says that Paul says that I'm persuaded it's in you also, it took second. Timothy, 314, 15, says, But continue thou and the things which thou hast learned and has been assured of knowing of whom thou hast learned them. So you got a couple things there. Keep doing the things, and you know where you learn them from. This goes back to Lois and Eunice, and he says, And that from a child, thou hast known the holy scriptures, even when dad wasn't presenting it. When he was young, really little, right? He was given the scriptures. So it's so important to have your kids in church, but it's more important that you have your kids in the Word of God. I was listening to Seth just a few minutes ago in a teen class today, and you know, he looked back at his son, who's almost eight, and he goes, my son can read the Bible and pray. And I say, Amen, some do we not think they can handle it. We give them every electric device or electron device under the sun, they play video games for hours. But yet we think that they can't read a couple of these and thou's, or that they can't get in the Word of God. But see, here we see Lois and Eunice knew from a very early age that Timothy needed the Word of God. Man that's family stepping up, even when the spiritual leader of the home was not present. Somebody was stepping up and saying, this needs to happen. And he says, from a child, thou hast known the Holy Scriptures which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith, which is in Christ. Jesus, trust me, what they need most is not money being set aside for college, right? It is not an inheritance. What they need most is the word of God that is able to make them wise unto salvation. And they need it from as early as you can give it to them as possible. And if the parents aren't doing it, then you as grandparents step up and do it, or we as a church step up and do it. But the kids need the word of God, absolutely, 100% it was that foundation that was able to see Timothy go on and do great things. Am I even going back to Israel with Joshua in 2415 I mean, this verse is everywhere, and there's a lot of truth in it. Joshua says, If it seemed evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom you will serve. Whether the gods with your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. I mean, I've been in a lot of houses where it's on the wall. I don't know if it's being implemented, it's being recognized, right? But shouldn't there be somebody in the home who draws a line and says, Yes, as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord, especially in this dispensation of grace, when we're able to rightly divide the word of truth and know what is for us today, and eliminate the vast majority of the confusion and contradictions that are out there, making it easy to understand the word of God, easy to understand the gospel that saves it is apart from you doing anything at all. What are we doing as a family to ensure that we will serve the Lord in this dispensation of grace? I'm reminded that some of us have had a really bad biological experience when it comes to family. But what I can promise you is that if you're a child of God here today, regardless what has happened to you, biologically, the system will never tear down what has been done for you spiritually, the spiritual blessings that are waiting for you in Heaven can never be taken away, regardless what biologically has been ripped from you. And I'm also going to share this truth with you in Colossians 210 if you're a child of God in your day, you are complete in Him, even if your church family lets you down, even if family in general let you down, your completeness is in him because of what Jesus did on the cross, not because of unfair relationships in your life. Even the best biological family can't make you complete, only the gospel. But let's look at a couple of things here. There's these. This terminology was definitely used by Paul, these family terms. For one, he talked about cherishing as a mother, first, Thessalonians, two, seven, we were gentle among you. Even as a nurse, cherishes her children, you're going to see in a positive way that family

is constantly represented, especially in this dispensation of grace. So Paul talks using this. As a reference point, how nurse cherishes her children. He was talking about how he was gentle to the Thessalonians in that same way, first, Corinthians, 417, For this cause have I sent unto you to Timothy, who is my beloved Son, faithful in the Lord, Who shall bring you into remembrance of of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church. We talked about that a little bit on Wednesday, so Paul would reference himself as a father to some another family term. How about a brother? We talked about Epaphroditus on Wednesday, and it says, Yet, I suppose in Philipians, 225, I suppose it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and companion and labor and fellow soldier, your messenger, that he ministered to my wants. So Paul used family terms. And then the body of Christ. There are a pattern of family with it as well. Galatians 610, says, As we therefore have opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith, or Ephesians, 219 now therefore you are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God. So let me try to make sense of this here at the end, and kind of give you a takeaway. The Church doesn't exist to replace your family, but a church in the body of Christ, when it is doing what it's supposed to do, can have a lot of the traits and a lot of the characteristics that a family has, right? So whether you're biologically have had it rough, right? Whether, if your family life is terrible and you've come to the church to look for that missing piece, you will, by and large, find good people in church because of what they have inside them with Christ, but they are imperfect because there are probably just as many people who hate family because of a bad church hurt experience as people who had a bad biological experience. Although we are supposed to have the same care and love for one another, only Christ makes us complete. And I think that's important takeaway that we can pull from this. But at the same time, let's recognize that when there are those situations with Lois Eunice, and it does happen in our lives where there was those good influences and it did help us become the people God want us to. Are we thankful for them? Do we tell them? Wouldn't be awesome this week if, if there are people on your heart and mind that maybe you've sent letters to family members you haven't seen a long time saying I'm thankful for XYZ. I know we get busy, but it means a lot. Do you pray for the people you thank for? Do you tell God? I'm thankful for mom and dad, I'm thankful for the people in my church. I'm thankful for the Sunday school teacher who stepped in and made sure that I had the word of God, and they were kind of like a spiritual mother to me, are we thankful for those people? Do we tell them? Do we pause long enough to tell them? Here's what I can tell you. Is Thanksgiving being my favorite day that it was not long ago that everybody was pretty much in my house. It's the one day I host during the year, and there was my dad. I had no idea a month later he was going to be diagnosed with stage four esophageal cancer, and that was the last Thanksgiving that I had with my dad. You don't know. Why not tell somebody you're thankful for the impact that they've made on your life? Why not celebrate the fact this year when the family comes together, regardless of people get on your nerves or whatever, why not celebrate the fact that you are all together? Because I would do anything for one more Thanksgiving with my dad, or with JL, who is always on there on Thanksgiving days, Connie's dad, I think it's a good time to pause and instead of always critiquing, tearing down and complaining about who or who our family is and what they've Done, instead to thank God, especially if they're a believer. We are all flawed. We absolutely are. It's a little bit different, I guess, with unbelievers, I understand that, but I mean we it is much easier for us to criticize than to be thankful for people. And I wonder if we could make this Thanksgiving a little bit different. And remember the positives, the things that people have done in our lives, and we can tell them that I'm thankful for you because of this, and I'm praying to God and I'm thankful for these people, and if we can't redeem the time, so to speak, I know this was talked about a teen class today, but redeem even the Thanksgiving moments that you have together. You are not promised the next one. None of us know that. So I would just want to challenge you guys today before we wrap this up, a practical step. If you're truly thankful for people who've made an impact in your life, whether biological, church family or whatever, why don't you tell them? Why don't you send them a card, a letter, take them out to lunch, encourage them. Why not pray? Why not thank God for the impact that they've made in your life? And if you can't think

of anything, then you spend your time thanking God for what he's given you that you did not deserve. That's eternal life through the shed blood of Jesus Christ on the cross to wash away your sins. But don't just go through another Sunday or another season of life just saying that, not taking the time to say thank you to the people who have formed and shaped you to become the person that you are. I think that would be a loss, and you don't know how many days you're going to have. I know in this congregation, even as I'm talking right now, I'm trying not to focus on faces, but I know the loss that's in this room, the recent loss for so many of you know what I'm talking about with my dad, and you wish there was one more Thanksgiving that you could have, and you would have maybe done things different. So I'm saying this month, be thankful for people. Be thankful for those who have shaped you. Be thankful for the Lord for all that he's done for you. But Redeem the time and don't just take it for granted. I might have everybody stand real quick and different kind of message today, next week, is going to be really cut and dry. It's the Gospel we are thankful for, the gospel of grace today, and then we're going to finish up with being thankful for Rightly dividing these next couple of weeks. But I want to spend a moment just to be thankful for family and this institution that God has, that has come from the institution of marriage that allows us to be able to have family today, and the positives of that. But we'd certainly want to recognize the fact that we are complete in Christ aside, we hope you received a blessing from today's service. We would love to have you visit with us in person. For more information, please visit our website at GPindy.net, or contact us by phone at 317-535-3512, for more options to watch, just click on demand on the website until next broadcast, may God bless you. Is our prayer for that, but I'm going to pray. We're going to sing, and then I will dismiss you, Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for this day, Lord. I hope that it came out clear enough today. It made sense when I was preparing it. But Lord, we certainly pray that Your Word would not return void, Lord. We just pray that everyone in this room would maybe thinking about the relationships in their life, the people that you've put in place in their lives. Lord, the people that have made an impact, whether that is biologically or maybe through the body of Christ or teachers or different people like that, have played a role in our lives that has maybe pointed us towards the gospel, but we're thankful for the example of Timothy, having a having a grandmother and a mother when when the father wasn't stepping up and leading spiritually. We don't see anything negative, that he was a bad guy or anything like that. But we see clearly from scripture where the spiritual foundation came from. But we're thankful for all the grandparents in the room, Lord today and who are watching online, who've stepped up and did the job when the kids weren't around and the kids wouldn't do the job. We're thankful for the the parents who have, who have labored tirelessly from when their children were very young to raise their children up in the way they should go and and Lord that there's still a close knit family, and they're all serving God together, but we're thankful for the the people in this room who maybe have had a rough life, Lord, but the church has brought them a lot of the the traits of family, but Lord, most importantly, we're thankful you sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins, and that He was buried and rose again three days later. If we place our faith in that alone, Lord, we will be with you in heaven for all eternity, and we are complete in you. We are accepted in the beloved because of what Jesus did. There is a perfect family that we are a part of, and that is of that household of God, specifically as it talks about our relationship with you Lord. So we just pray Lord that we spend this time of year being thankful, letting people know how thankful we are for them, taking some steps to not get so busy, but they can speak so much life into somebody for thanking them for something they've done for them, especially as it as it concerns family. So Lord, we just pray you be with our group. Lord that they would have an unbelievable holiday season, but Lord that they would kick off with being thankful for the people around them. Well, we love you and praise you in Jesus name Amen. You.