

# The W's of Thanksgiving

When the calendar turns to November, our thoughts turn to Thanksgiving. We begin planning family menus and dinners. We start the thought process of asking ourselves: Where will we go for Thanksgiving this year? Who else will be invited? When will the meal be served? What foods will be prepared and enjoyed? All of these questions are an important part of planning a holiday celebration that is both delicious and memorable. Thanksgiving is, after all, ranked the second biggest food holiday of the year (according to Google).

And while food is a very large part of Thanksgiving - giving thanks should be an even larger part. Thanksgiving is, aptly named, for the holiday that was established as a time to remember God's goodness and grace. God is - and has been, so good and faithful to us, why not be thankful every day of November instead of just on Thanksgiving Day?

**Psalm 9:1** - I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. This is a great verse for us to meditate on as we jump start the month of November. As our mind begins with the questions of: where, who, when, and what - as we begin to plan our holiday-menu and celebrations - let's use those same interrogative pronouns and adverbs to create in us, an attitude of gratitude, as we reflect on what God has done for and given to each one of us. Thank Him for the where's in your life. Where do you live? Where do you go to school or work? Where do you go to church? Then there's the who's, and not the ones in Whoville. The ones in You-ville. Your who's. Your parents, your spouse, your kids, siblings, grandparents, friends, neighbors and Fellow-Believers. This list should be a long one. Then comes the when's. These are dates and times. Vacations, holidays, birthdays, celebrations, retirements, big events, parties, and so on. And let's not forget the what's. These are the things that God so generously blesses us with. This list should be endless...pizza, sunshine, clothes, cars, jobs, homes, coffee, hugs, hot showers, bird's singing, a bed with a warm blanket, your dog, cat, or lizard. God gives every one of us "stuff" and "things" that we use and enjoy every single day.

**1 Thessalonians 5:18** - In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Nothing is too big or too small to be thankful for. God wants us to give thanks for everything - and that means, well, every - thing. No exceptions or exemptions. God wants us to thank him for what he's given to us - what parent doesn't love to hear the words "thank you" from their children. So, as we go through the month of November, let's be thankful every day and remember the W's of Thanksgiving. And by the way, we here at The Christian Center, want to say "thank you" to each one of you - our Who's - for your faithful support and prayers. We wouldn't have our when's, what's and where's, without you. May you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

God bless,  
The Christian Center Staff