# Welcome





### **Sunday 10:30am & 6pm**

Coffee & Donuts Fellowship before Sunday Morning Service Sunday Services Streamed Live

## Wednesday 6pm Life Recovery Tuesday 6:30pm



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## Take a deep breath and exhale slowly. Now, give yourself permission to simply be with God and receive from Him!

## Wednesday Bible Study—6pm

"The Awe of God" study continues this week. Small meal at 5:30pm.

This week: Chapter 26 - "A Good Plan" In the section "Our response to God's Word"

The fear of the Lord is what arms me to maintain a deep resolve to obey God, even in the face of adversity.



#### **CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES**

Were taken to the drop off this past week and they have begun their journal to a child somewhere in the world. Continue to pray for the ministry teams that will use these boxes to share the Love of the Lord.

# **EXPECT something from the LORD!**

#### REAL SECURITY—BILLY GRAHAM DEVOTION

The foundation of God standard sure ... -2 TIMOTHY 2:19

On campus the quickest way to security is through the crowd. Precisely where students talk about being independent and on their own, you will find them practicing the most rigid conformity in dress, in speech, in moral attitudes, and in thinking. Sometimes they follow fashion at the expense of integrity. They dread to be alone. They do not want to stand out or be different. They want to conform.

After they graduate from college, many of these young people want nothing more than a good job with a big firm, and a home somewhere in suburbia. But they don't find security then either. Only Jesus Christ can give you the security that you are looking for.

Prayer: Long-sought-after security I found only in Your abiding love, my Savior, Jesus Christ.

### BRIDGE THE GAP—BILLY GRAHAM DEVOTION

Keep a close watch on all you do and think. Stay true to what is right ...

—1 Timothy 4:16 (TLB)

In searching for ways to bridge the generation gap, there is no doubt that we, as parents, will have to practice what we preach, by striving more and more to bring our conduct into line with our code of beliefs.

No mother can demand that her daughter abstain from sleeping around when she herself is flirting and on occasion compromising her own moral conduct. No father, who wavers between heavy social drinking and occasional binges to the edge of alcoholism, and who can't speak a pleasant word in the morning until he has had a cigarette, can yell incessantly at his son to get off marijuana, the route

## Everyone Deserves a New Day

that often leads to hard drugs.

Consistency, constancy, and undeviating diligence to maintain Christian character are a must if the older generation is to command respect, or even a hearing, from the young.

**Prayer:** Younger eyes see my errant behavior, Lord. Help me to be the right example—one which will draw them to You.

#### THERE IS POWER IN TURNING BACK TO GIVE THANKS —JENTEZEN FRANKLIN

As children, our parents instill in us the value of saying 'thank you' after being given something. But what if that simple act wasn't mindlessly practiced out of habit, but out of a genuine heart of gratitude? What if thankfulness weren't something we dedicate one day a year to, but something that we integrate into our daily lives?



As we approach this season of Thanksgiving, our goal should be to find a way to give thanks to the Lord directly, on a weekly, daily, or even hourly basis.

In Luke 17, we read the story of 10 men who stood at a distance, crying out to Jesus for healing. They were lepers, outcasts, forgotten, and living on the margins of society. Moved with compassion, Jesus told them to go and show themselves to the priests, and as they went, they were healed. But the story doesn't end there. Nine went on their way, but one turned back with a spirit of thanksgiving and fell at the feet of Jesus. And Jesus said to him, "Jesus asked, Were not all 10 cleansed? Where are the other nine? Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

This story is more than a miracle; it's a mirror. It shows us how easy it is to receive blessings and keep walking, and how rare it is to turn back and say 'thank you.' The difference between the nine and the one wasn't in what they received; it was in how they responded. All 10 men were healed, but only one was made whole. The thankful leper didn't just get his skin cleansed; he got his soul restored.

Thanksgiving should not just be something trendy we focus on once a year at the dinner table. It must become a posture that determines how we live each day. A thankful heart keeps the miracle alive. It says, "God, I remember where I was when You found me. I haven't forgotten what You did."

We live in a culture that moves quickly from blessing to blessing. We pray for open doors, for healing or for provision. Yet, when it comes, we rush on to the next thing. But somewhere between the miracle and the next need, God is waiting for us to turn back. Gratitude slows us down long enough to recognize that everything we have is grace.

This season, we can give genuine thanks to God by turning back. By making space in our hearts for remembrance and choosing worship over worry and humble gratitude over grumbling.

When we turn back, something shifts. Gratitude doesn't change our circumstances, but it changes us. It takes us from merely receiving gifts to intimately knowing the Giver of every good and perfect thing.

There's power in a thankful heart. When we thank our heavenly Provider, we open the door to even more, and the supernatural power of God can flow into our homes, our families and our lives. The leper's story shows us that thanksgiving multiplies miracles. Healing came through obedience, but wholeness came through gratitude.

Maybe this year you're not standing in abundance, but in the in-between of asking in faith and awaiting God's provision. Perhaps you're praying for the same miracle again and again, waiting for an answer that hasn't come. Even here, you can turn back. Gratitude isn't reserved for people whose lives are perfect; it's for those who believe that even in pain, God is still good, that He is enough.

## Ministry Team

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#### Continued from inside...

This Thanksgiving, whether you stand in abundance or in waiting, turn back to God. Fall at His feet with gratitude for what He's done, and faith for what He has yet to do. Because the miracle of turning back isn't just what happens when we thank Him, it's who we become because of it.

The leper was healed on the road, but he was made whole in the presence of Jesus. Gratitude brought him back there, and it will bring us back, too.

#### CHILDREN ABDUCTED IN NIGERIAN SCHOOL ATTACK

A total of 303 schoolchildren and 12 teachers were abducted by gunmen during an attack on St. Mary's School, a Catholic institution in north-central Nigeria's Niger state, the Christian Association of Nigeria said Saturday, updating an earlier tally of 215 schoolchildren.

The tally was changed "after a verification exercise and a final census was carried out," according to a statement issued by the Most. Rev. Bulus Dauwa Yohanna, chairman of the Niger state chapter of CAN, who visited the school on Friday. He said 88 other students "were also captured after they tried to escape" during the attack. The students were both male and female and ranged in age from 10 to 18. The school kidnapping in Niger state's remote Papiri community happened four days after 25 schoolchildren were seized in similar circumstances in neighboring Kebbi state's Maga town, which is 170 kilometers (106 miles) away.

School kidnappings have come to define insecurity in Africa's most populous nation, and armed gangs often see schools as "strategic" targets to draw more attention. UNICEF said last year that only 37% of schools across 10 of the conflict-hit states have early warning systems to detect threats. Niger state has now shut down all schools as a measure to forestall other kidnappings. The decision was in a bid to protect lives and property, Niger Gov. Umar Bago told reporters Saturday after meeting with security officials in Minna.

"It is the decision of stakeholders today to close all schools in Niger state. All schools are closed till further notice. So we have declared Christmas holiday for all schools in Niger state," Bago said.

The kidnappings are happening amid U.S. President Donald Trump's claims of targeted killings against Christians in the West African country. Attacks in Nigeria affect both Christians and Muslims. The school attack earlier this week in Kebbi state was in a Muslim-majority town. The attack also took place as Nigerian National Security Adviser Nuhu Ribadu was visiting the U.S. where he met Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth on Friday.