# Make Church a Part of Your Life

## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Forget Not All His Benefits"

By Preacher/Teacher Terry L. Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

The Light

the Lord all my soul and forget not all His benefits." Christians who let the Holy Spirit of Christ place this truth deep into their hearts create a "Book of Thanks". This might be done in actual notebook format for some, or for others, in the forefront of their mind's eye. True gratitude enables the child of God to rejoice over all the benefits the Lord has bestowed upon

The Christian's "Book of Thanks" includes thanks for past blessings, appreciation for present favors, and praise for promised grace, birthing forth a trust in God's future provision.

In a message written by Neil B. Wiseman, I read of a preacher of an earlier era explaining the vital relationship between gratitude and adoration: "Our thanks should be as fervent for mercies received as our petitions for mercies sought." A practical application for showing adoration to the Lord for his faithfulness is so powerfully suggested in a songwriter's lyrics, "Count your many blessings, name them one by one."

The truth in this stanza and the truth proclaimed in Psalm 103:2 enables the child of God to take note of the Lord's working throughout the day. Many Christians enjoy being able to thank the Lord for the good health to get out of bed in the morning. They can thank the Lord for every meal the day. The praise continues as they thank the Lord for a

Psalms 103:2 says, "Praise country where so much freedom the beautiful birds that come to is enjoyed, and thank the Lord for the beauty of nature that is placed all around them.

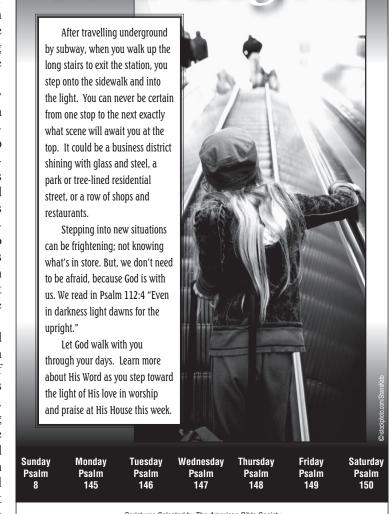
Many Christian truckers and farmers give thanks to the Lord for allowing them to see the deer, turkeys, pheasants and other wildlife along the road. The homebound often sense the Lord's pleasure as they thank Him for allowing them to see

the bird feeder. Christian travelers know the joy that springs from thanking the Lord for the awesome scenery as they drive through the Rocky Mountains or beautiful forests. Christian parents have their vision restored in raising children as they make time to thank the Lord for allowing them to see their children participate in the fine arts and

athletic events, and achieve in academics. Even the afflicted have sensed the Lord's pleasure as they thank Him for their doctors, nurses and excellent health care that is available in the USA. Christians have experienced great joy as they thank the Lord for the opportunity to participate in ministry, missions support, praying for others, and being active in the Lord's work.

The greatest benefit to thank God for is His revelation which gives you knowledge about Jesus Christ, God's enabling to receive Jesus as both Savior and Lord, and for the change that has come to your life as you live a life of genuine faith. Being grateful to the Lord produces emotions of wonder and worship, opening spiritual eyes to see God's Redemption, abundance in mercy and grace, producing a trust in His protection.

Let the Holy Spirit touch your heart with these questions. Does your thanksgiving list include a productive field as witness of God's sustaining care? Does it list the love that adds meaning to all relationships of your home, relatives, friends and the local church? Does your list speak worth in work, so you find joy and strength to do all your labors as unto the Lord? Especially, does your "Book of Thanks" provide thankfulness for Jesus Christ, His birth, death and resurrection as being meaningful realities in your life?



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what the government is doing in your community and how elected officials are spending your tax dollars.

Your local newspaper fulfills an essential role in serving your right to know. After all, it shouldn't be your responsibility to know how to look ... where to look ... when to look ... and even what to look for in order to be informed about public information. It is the government's responsibility to notify you of public information, and your local newspaper is the most accessible place to find it.

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