

BETH EDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

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OFFICE OF THE PASTOR



BETH EDEN BAPTIST

November 22, 2023

Dear Saints of God,

Consider these words. “Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks, because he’s given Jesus Christ, his Son. Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks, because he’s given Jesus Christ, his Son. And now let the weak say ‘I am strong’, let the poor say ‘I am rich’, because of what the Lord has done for us; and now let the weak say ‘I am strong’, let the poor say ‘I am rich’, because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks...” (Henry Smith)

The background for this song is that in 1978, a young seminary graduate named Henry Smith was struggling to find work and coming to terms with a degenerative eye condition that would eventually leave him legally blind. Despite those hardships, Henry found hope in 2 *Corinthians* 8:9 (For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.) and penned “Give Thanks,” a very popular song today.

As you celebrate the Thanksgiving Day holiday, the time is right to really give thanks to God, because we have so, so, much to thank God for. If you count your blessings now, you will continue to do so, because every day we receive new mercies.

It is my prayer that this season brings you closer to the love of God, which God is freely giving to each of us.

Soon, the year 2023 will be over. I ask that you consider making a generous gift to the ministry of Beth Eden. As a church we accomplished much, with the major work that had to be done...the roof. We praise God that we were able to install a new roof, enabling us to worship without the concerns of possible damage to our church building. We raised money for the project, but had to secure a loan, to compensate for the financial shortfall we had. Please consider giving more, so we will not have such a great indebtedness.

Bless the church, so that additionally, we can do the things that God has called us to do. There is work to do. Souls to save, outreach to and for the youth, community outreach, and much more. The truth is that in order to have good programming, in addition to what God gives us, God uses us to give. Be a blessing to our ministry!

PUT ON A SMILE: A 4-year-old boy who was asked to return thanks before Thanksgiving Day dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation. He began his prayer, thanking God for all his friends, naming them one by one. Then he thanked God for Mommy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grandma, Grandpa, and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank God for the food. He gave thanks for the turkey, the dressing, the fruit salad, the cranberry sauce, the pies, the cakes, even the Cool Whip.

Then he paused, and everyone waited--and waited. After a long silence, the young fellow looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank God for the broccoli, won't he know that I'm lying?"

Love ya,
Pastor Jenkins



Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 1st Corinthians 2:9