

November 27, 2004

PROGRAM TOPIC

**BELIEVE THAT YE RECEIVE THEM**

FORMAT

**OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCE GUEST**

**LOVE AND LIGHT, I'M REV. PHIL AND I'M YOUR HOST FOR "WORDS OF THE PROPHETS." THIS MORNING IS MY 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL THANKSGIVING THANKFULNESS AND GRATITUDE SHOW AND CO-HOSTING WITH ME IS MY WIFE LINDA. YOU, THE LISTENING AUDIENCE, ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS DISCUSSION. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU. OUR PHONE NUMBER IS 428-1382. TODAY'S TOPIC IS "BELIEVE THAT YE RECEIVE THEM" THIS LINE IS FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MARK, THE KING JAMES VERSION, CHAPTER 11, PARAGRAPH 24. THE PARAGRAPH READS AS FOLLOWS:**

**"THEREFORE I SAY UNTO YOU, WHAT THINGS SOEVER YE DESIRE, WHEN YE PRAY, BELIEVE THAT YE RECEIVE THEM, AND YE SHALL HAVE THEM."**

**BEFORE LINDA AND I START OUR DISCUSSION LET ME REMIND YOU THAT WE WANT AND NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU. CALL US AT 428-1382. WE HAVE ONLY ONE LINE SO IF YOU GET A BUSY SIGNAL PLEASE TRY US AGAIN.**

**GOD KNOWS ME, AND LOVES ME, AND CARES FOR ME. I AM JUST AS DEAR TO HIM AS ANY HUMAN BEING WHO HAS EVER LIVED.**

**GOD HAS EVERY QUALITY OF PERSONALITY EXCEPT LIMITATION. HE CAN BE TO ME ANYTHING THAT ANY HUMAN BEING COULD BE, AND INFINITELY MORE.**

**IN TRUTH AND REALITY NOTHING CAN EVER TOUCH ME BUT THE DIRECT ACTION OF GOD HIMSELF, AND GOD IS LOVE.**

**THERE IS NO PROBLEM BIGGER THAN GOD. NO DIFFICULTY, HOWEVER SEEMINGLY GRAVE, CAN COME INTO MY LIFE, THAT GOD CANNOT COMPLETELY WIPE OUT.**

**GOD IS CONTINUALLY INSTRUCTING ME, AND IN SOME GOOD WAY HE WILL NOW CLEARLY SHOW ME THE NEXT IMPORTANT STEP IN MY LIFE – AND HOW TO TAKE THAT STEP.**

**THE WILL OF GOD FOR ME IS PEACE OF MIND, TRUE PLACE, HAPPINESS, JOYOUS ACTIVITY, AND UNBROKEN PROGRESS. I THANK GOD FOR THIS.**

**EMMET FOX  
AROUND THE YEAR**

**GRATITUDE UNLOCKS THE FULLNESS OF LIFE. GRATITUDE MAKES THINGS RIGHT. IT TURNS WHAT WE HAVE INTO ENOUGH, AND MORE. IT TURNS DENIAL INTO ACCEPTANCE, CHAOS TO ORDER, CONFUSION TO CLARITY. IT CAN TURN A MEAL INTO A FEAST, A HOUSE INTO A HOME, A STRANGER INTO A FRIEND. IT TURNS PROBLEMS INTO GIFTS, FAILURES INTO SUCCESSES, THE UNEXPECTED INTO PERFECT TIMING, AND MISTAKES INTO IMPORTANT**

**EVENTS. IT CAN TURN AN EXISTENCE INTO A REAL LIFE, AND DISCONNECTED SITUATIONS INTO IMPORTANT AND BENEFICIAL LESSONS. GRATITUDE MAKES SENSE OF OUR PAST, BRINGS PEACE FOR TODAY, AND CREATES A VISION FOR TOMORROW.**

**MELODY BEATTIE**

**GRATITUDE IS MORE THAN JUST BEING THANKFUL. THE "PRINCIPLE" OF GRATITUDE IS A MORAL RESPONSIBILITY. IF WE ARE TRULY GRATEFUL, WE WILL HELP OTHERS ACHIEVE WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED. NEXT IS THE "PRIORITY" OF GRATITUDE. AS SOON AS WE KNOW THAT GOD HAS CHANGED OUR LIVES, WE MUST LET NOTHING INTERFERE WITH WHAT WE KNOW TO BE RIGHT.**

**THE "PROPRIETY OF GRATITUDE SHOWS US THAT OUR HIGHER POWER IS NOT A RESPECTER OF PERSONS, AND WE DESERVE ITS GRACE AS MUCH AS ANYONE ELSE DOES. THEN THE "PURPOSE" OF OUR GRATITUDE IS NOT ENTIRELY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ONE BLESSED. THE "PURPOSE" IS TO SHED LIGHT ON THE ONE WHO BLESSED US.**

**DO MY ACTIONS REFLECT MY GRATITUDE?**

**HIGHER POWER, HELP ME ALWAYS TO REMEMBER TO BE GRATEFUL FOR WHAT I HAVE BEEN BLESSED WITH AND LET ME FULLY UNDERSTAND THE MAGNITUDE OF GRATITUDE.**

**DAY BY DAY DAILY MEDITATIONS  
HAZELDEN PUBLICATION  
SECOND EDITION**

**MAY NONE OF YOUR HUMAN CHILDREN DOUBT OR QUESTION YOUR WISDOM, GRACE, AND SENSE OF WHOLENESS IN GIVING ALL OF CREATION A RIGHT TO BE LIVING EXTENSIONS OF YOUR PERFECT LOVE.**

**A NATIVE AMERICAN THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

**I WENT AT DAWN TO A MAGNIFICENT TEMPLE. ITS ARCHITECTURE WAS SUCH A SUPREME EXPRESSION OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT THAT IT WAS A TREASURE. GENERATIONS OF WORSHIPPERS HAD LEFT OFFERINGS AT THE SHRINES, HUNDREDS OF MONKS HAD REACHED THEIR ENLIGHTENMENT ON THE CONSECRATED GROUNDS, AND THOUSANDS HAD BEEN BLESSED IN LIFE AND DEATH IN THE VENERABLE HALLS.**

**YET MY MOST MOVING OBSERVATION WAS AN OLD WOMAN SILENTLY SWEEPING THE STEPS. HER CONCENTRATION WAS PERFECT. HER DEVOTION WAS PALPABLE. HER THOROUGHNESS WAS COMPLETE. HER UNCELEBRATED ACT SHOWED A TRUE HOLY SPIRIT.**

**LATER IN THE DAY, WEALTHY PEOPLE CAME TO WORSHIP. CHILDREN WITH BRIGHTLY COLORED TOYS RAN OVER THE GRAY STONES. THE ABBOT WALKED TO HIS CEREMONIES. MONKS PASSED IN SILENT PRAYER. OF ALL WHO PASSED, HOW MANY WERE AWARE OF THE SAINTLY SERVICE THAT HAD MADE THEIR OWN DEVOTION POSSIBLE?**

**WHEN THE WAY IS ALL WE HAVE TO WALK, THOSE WHO PREPARE THE WAY SHOULD BE TRULY HONORED.**

**DENG MING-DAO**

*Q: BUT HOW CAN I BE TRULY GRATEFUL FOR SOMETHING I KNOW IS NOT THERE?*

**A: FAITH. IF YOU HAD BUT THE FAITH OF A MUSTARD SEED, YOU SHALL MOVE MOUNTAINS.**

*Q: DOES THAT MEAN I CANNOT ASK FOR ANYTHING I WANT? ARE YOU SAYING THAT PRAYING FOR SOMETHING ACTUALLY PUSHES IT AWAY FROM US?*

**A: YOU WILL NOT HAVE THAT FOR WHICH YOU ASK, NOR CAN YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANT. THIS IS BECAUSE YOUR VERY REQUEST IS A STATEMENT OF LACK, AND YOUR SAYING YOU WANT A THING ONLY WORKS TO PRODUCE THAT PRECISE EXPERIENCE – WANTING – IN YOUR REALITY.**

**THE CORRECT PRAYER IS THEREFORE NEVER A PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION, BUT A PRAYER OF GRATITUDE.**

**THANKFULNESS IS THUS THE MOST POWERFUL STATEMENT TO GOD; AN AFFIRMATION THAT EVEN BEFORE YOU ASK, I HAVE ANSWERED.**

**NEALE DONALD WALSCH  
CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD  
AN UNCOMMON DIALOGUE  
BOOK 1**

**CELEBRATE! CELEBRATE LIFE! CELEBRATE SELF!  
CELEBRATE GOD! CELEBRATE! PLAY THE GAME.  
BRING JOY TO THE MOMENT, WHATEVER THE  
MOMENT SEEMS TO BRING, BECAUSE JOY IS WHO  
YOU ARE, AND WHO YOU WILL ALWAYS BE.  
GOD CANNOT CREATE ANYTHING IMPERFECT. IF  
YOU THINK THAT GOD CAN CREATE ANYTHING  
IMPERFECT, THEN YOU KNOW NOTHING OF GOD.**

**SO CELEBRATE. CELEBRATE THE PERFECTION!  
SMILE AND CELEBRATE AND SEE ONLY THE  
PERFECTION, AND THAT WHICH OTHERS CALL THE  
IMPERFECTION WILL NOT TOUCH YOU IN ANY WAY  
WHICH IS IMPERFECT FOR YOU.**

**NEALE DONALD WALSCH  
CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD  
AN UNCOMMON DIALOGUE  
BOOK 3**

**ONCE, WHEN MY FEET WERE BARE, AND I HAD NOT  
THE MEANS OF OBTAINING SHOES I CAME TO THE  
CHIEF OF KUFAN IN A STATE OF MUCH DEJECTION,  
AND SAW THERE A MAN WHO HAD NO FEET. I  
RETURNED THANKS TO GOD AND ACKNOWLEDGED  
HIS MERCIES, AND ENDURED MY WANT OF SHOES  
WITH PATIENCE.**

**SHEIKH SADI OF SHIRAZ  
THE GULISTAN OF SA'DI**

**TO BE WITH GOD WONDERING, THAT IS  
ADORATION. TO BE WITH GOD GRATEFULLY, THAT  
IS THANKSGIVING. TO BE WITH GOD ASHAMED,  
THAT IS CONTRITION. TO BE WITH GOD WITH  
PEOPLE AND THINGS WE CARE ABOUT IN OUR  
HEARTS, THAT IS INTERCESSION. BUT THE CENTER  
OF IT IN DESIRE AND IN DESIGN WILL BE THE  
BEING WITH GOD.**

**THE LATE MICHAEL RAMSEY  
FORMER ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY**

**TO EDUCATE YOURSELF FOR THE FEELING OF GRATITUDE MEANS TO TAKE NOTHING FOR GRANTED, BUT TO ALWAYS SEEK OUT AND VALUE THE KIND THAT WILL STAND BEHIND THE ACTION. NOTHING THAT IS DONE FOR YOU IS A MATTER OF COURSE. EVERYTHING ORIGINATES IN A WILL FOR THE GOOD, WHICH IS DIRECTED AT YOU. TRAIN YOURSELF NEVER TO PUT OFF THE WORD OR ACTION FOR THE EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE.**

**DR. ALBERT SCHWEITZER**

**AUTUMN EQUINOX IS THE TIME TO REFLECT UPON LIFE. IF WE HAVE ENJOYED A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST WE EXPRESS OUR THANKS. IF THE YEAR HAS BEEN DIFFICULT SO FAR, THEN WE ARE HAPPY FOR WHAT WE DO HAVE AND RESOLVE TO DO BETTER ONCE THE CHANCE COMES. THE APPRECIATION OF LIFE DOES NOT REQUIRE WEALTH OR PLENTY. IT REQUIRES ONLY GRATITUDE FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE WORLD.**

**DENG MING-DAO**