

# The Lakeside



## Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday November 20, 2023 - Psalm 100: 4

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him  
and praise his name.

Read Psalm 100 for meditation and inspiration.



## ***GRATITUDE LIVING***

Dear Lakesiders and friends,

Hebrews 13:15: "By him, therefore, let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."

A California religious newspaper (The "Son" Sentinel), published an article which contrasted the living habits of two kinds of birds that fly over the California desert: the vulture and the hummingbird... All the vultures can see is rotting meat because that is all it looks for. It thrives on that diet. But the hummingbird ignores the carcasses and the smelly flesh of dead animals. Instead, it looks for the tiny blossoms of the cactus flowers. It buzzes around until it finds the colorful blooms, almost hidden from view by the rocks. Each bird finds what it's looking for.

What are we looking for? Better still, what are we finding? And what we are finding tells us what we are looking for in Life. Our expectations of Life will determine, ultimately, our realization of Life.

One way to understand all of this is to understand that to move out of the dark strangle hold of the death search and to live in the delicate beauty of flowers and delight in the light of life is really one word. That word is GRATITUDE!

You can sense this joy as one lives in Thanksgiving throughout the pages of scripture and here are but a few:

**1 Chronicles 16:34 “O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures for ever!”**

**Psalm 7:17 “I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High.”**

**Psalm 28:7 “The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts; so I am helped, and my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.”**

**Psalm 30:12 “that my soul may praise thee and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to thee for ever.”**

**Psalm 86:12 “I give thanks to thee, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify thy name for ever.”**

**Psalm 100:4 “Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him, bless his name!”**

**Psalm 106:1 “Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures for ever!”**

**Psalm 107:1 “O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures for ever!”**

**1 Thessalonians 5:18 “give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”**

So there are a few scriptures that lead us to our life of gratitude. And where is the God of THANKSGIVING? We know that God dwells in two places: in heaven, and in a humble grateful heart!

Happy Thanksgiving,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger".

Roger

**PRAYER PUPS** BY JEFFREY SMITH



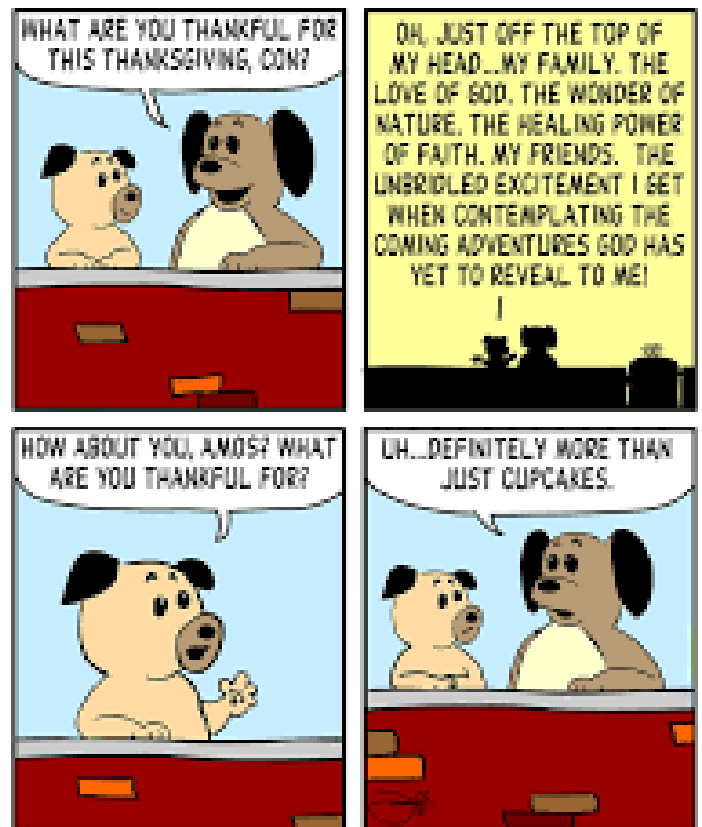
**COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS**

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits—  
 —PSALM 103:2 NIV

**PRAYER PUPS** BY JEFFREY SMITH



WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE THANKFUL FOR THIS YEAR, THINK ABOUT ALL GOD HAS GIVEN YOU.



"I find it hard to give thanks for broccoli casserole."