



Colossians 3:17

# Thank You Notes

The Newsletter of Giving Thanks Ministries  
Norma McMurry, President 100 Emerald Lake Drive Fayetteville, GA 30215  
PH: 937-689-7135

on the web at: [www.givingthanksministries.com](http://www.givingthanksministries.com)

email: [normamcmurry@yahoo.com](mailto:normamcmurry@yahoo.com)

Vol. XIV, No. 1

Ministries to Encourage Joyous and Purposeful Living

August 2014

## Giving Thanks for His Word

*Do we often enough thank God for His amazing Word? If I asked you what God's Word means to you, I would hear many answers. Today let's go to the Psalms to let them tell us reasons to hold great gratitude for the Word.*

- † Starting at the beginning, creation happened when God spoke. "By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,..." Psalm 33:6a
  - † Psalm 119:160 tells us the authority of the Word. "The entirety of Your word is truth,..."
  - † Many Psalms describe "The word of the Lord" with the word "is": "...is proven, Psalm 18:30; ...is right, Psalm 33:4; ...is very pure, Psalm 119:140; ...is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path, Psalm 119:105.
  - † The Psalms tell us what the word of God will do for us: keep us from sin, Psalm 119:11; direct our steps, Psalm 119:133; revive us, Psalm 119:154; strengthen us, Psalm 119:28.
  - † Therefore, the Psalmist gives us how we should react to God's word: "I have kept away from the paths of the destroyer." Psalm 17:4; "I hope in Your word." Psalm 119:114b; "... my heart stands in awe of Your word." Psalm 119:161b; "I rejoice at Your word..." Psalm 119:162a; "I will not forget your word." Psalm 119:16b.
  - † And the final benefit I will offer you today comes from Psalm 119:50b "...Your word has given me life."
- My fellow Christ-followers, God even sent the Word to live among us. John 1:1 says "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Matthew Henry writes so eloquently. "And thus Christ is the Word, ...He is the Word speaking from God to us, and to God for us." Thank Him every day!!*

## Giving Thanks for Family



It happens rarely, but for a few days in June, all nine of our grandchildren were with us without the presence of their parents!! Donald and Heather had the privilege of visiting Israel. Joseph and a team ministered on a trip to Atlanta. Caroline's family lives near us. What an occasion to have a big sleepover, play together and eat together at PawPaw and MiMi's!!

What fun!! Standing Left to Right: Walker (Joseph's), Grace (Donald's), Justin (Caroline's). Seated Left to Right: Max (D), Fletcher (J), Brennen (C), Cooper (J), Zach (D), Trey (D).

Yours truly celebrated an awesome 70th birthday!! Since our boys are pastors, I have my mind and emotions trained to know they and their families are not able to visit us on a weekend. So when Caroline, Scott, Don and I went to a play on Friday night to celebrate her and my February birthdays, I was pleased and happy. When we went to her house later for dessert, and the whole McMurry crew jumped out with "Surprise!!", I literally got so weak Don had to hold me up!! What a sweet gesture for them to do! They had to make return trips home in less than 24 hours.☺



*Giving Thanks Ministries*  
*Norma McMurry*  
*100 Emerald Lake Drive*  
*Fayetteville, Georgia 30215*  
*937-689-7135*

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”  
 Colossians 3:17 NIV

2014 is passing quickly! I surely enjoy speaking for our Wonderful Lord at any opportunity, and the variety of events I get to participate in is always exciting!

✝ January started with an event to fellowship with and speak encouragement to pastor and staff wives of the Flint River Baptist Association of Georgia. I believe I gained more from this group than I gave.

✝ At the Woman’s Missionary Union Tea at Fayetteville First Baptist I felt privileged to share a testimony about prayer as a North American missionary. God certainly answers your faithful prayers for missionaries.



✝ The children attending VBS at Friendship Baptist, Milner, GA, went by “time machine” to visit Susanna, one of the women who provided for Jesus and the disciples.

✝ While I was in Ohio, the Giving Thanks Ministries Board of Directors met. They always give me direction and support. Look at our newly designed web page.  
[www.givingthanks.net](http://www.givingthanks.net)

## *Giving Thanks Ministries Report*

✝ Don was asked to share in three different churches concerning North American Missions. He allowed me to give my prayer testimony at each one!! We are so grateful that you pray for missionaries and for Giving Thanks Ministries. Don became interim pastor at Friendship Baptist, Milner, GA, Easter.



✝ Sardis Baptist Church, Palmetto, GA, allowed me to speak at their Ladies’ Spring Banquet. They decorated beautifully and used the time as a tool for outreach.

✝ Traveling to Ohio for the Ladies Spring Retreat at Seneca Lake was a super treat! Seeing long-time friends always gives a boost to anyone. There I spoke on their theme “Call to Praise” and led a breakout session on Cardboard Testimonies. I’ve heard reports that ladies have used the testimonies in their home churches.



✝ Variety in speaking—I love it!! How about a sharing time based on the Cooperative Program?! Nesting measuring spoons and measuring cups give a great explanation of how our money goes from the local church to the association, to the state, to the nation and around the world! I shared that fun visual with Girls in Action and two different women’s groups.

✝ Bethel Baptist Church, Milner, GA, gave me occasion to speak at their Women’s



Tea. Delicious food and lots of music added to the day.

