

The Lord's Day Morning

November 24, 1949

"Thanksgiving"
Psalm 103:1-12

The Reverend Dr. Girard Lowe

Introduction:

1. Sometimes we need these special days.
 - a. Some say should be no Easter season
 1. Every Sunday is celebration or communication of risen Lord.
 - b. No Thanksgiving
 1. Every day we should give thanks
 2. Surely we all agree with this
 3. But few things have a special day when gratitude is called to our attention
2. We should all cultivate the spirit of Thanksgiving.
 - a. Fulton Oursler had article in November 20 "Sunday Commercial Appeal"\
 1. Anna, slave girl had helped doctor deliver his mother and was in bedroom when he was born.
 2. Sat at kitchen table and thanked God for her vittles "much obliged dear Lord for my vittles." He asked what were vittles; she told him and after meal thanked again.
 3. Old colored preacher taught her to play game of Thanksgiving.
 4. That morning could think of nothing to be thankful for then, daughter Josie came opened door and she smelt the coffee.
 5. Help Josie with house work.
 6. Little boy blue on mantle associated with slave days and Christmas present.
 7. Everything touched brought some loving memory to her mind.
 8. Looks in windows downtown.
 9. He said no money to buy with.
 10. Buy all she wanted.
 11. Did not want dresses she saw.
 12. Dressed his mother in them.
 13. These things ranged in her mind.
 14. Mother called to bedside of Ann at home of daughter. Ann lay dying in pain, hard old hands knotted in desperate clasp.
 15. Thought now what does she have to be thankful for.
 16. Seemingly in answer she said, "Much obliged dear Lord for such fine friends to come and see me off."
 - b. It would help all of us if we could or rather learn to play the game of the old colored nurse taught her by her pastor – the game of finding things to be thankful for.
3. Some things people who were stopped at random on the street and asked why they would be grateful on this Thanksgiving Day.

- I. For living in country where everyone can express own opinion
 1. Lady in cosmetic department at Gerbers
 2. She had lived in Germany
 3. Now grateful living in country of freedom.
 4. Talking to Mrs. Hutchinson in Columbus about displaced persons and their work, etc. She says they do not seem to get homesick, they seem so happy to be free to work and go and come as they please.
 5. We should be thankful for this.
- II. World at peace
 1. Manager of parking lot
 - a. Not old enough to go to last war.
 - b. Heard enough to know something of its horrors for those who went and those who had to stay.
 - c. Give thanks world at comparative peace.
 2. Let us not forget that five short years ago we were in most terrible war.
 3. Not forget to give thanks today and every day.
- III. Live in America
 1. Operator of filling station
 - a. Was in Japan, and all over pacific.
 2. America so far ahead.
 - a. Education
 - b. Comforts
 - c. Medical facilities
 3. We find much fault with our land. May have reason, but it is still best place on earth to live.
- IV. Health
 1. Salesman in clothing store.
 - a. Health so can work
 1. Support wife and 2 children
 - b. They too are healthy
 2. For work we should be grateful
 - a. Sometimes monotonous and difficult
 - b. But grateful for it
- V. Friends
 1. Young lady secretary
 - a. Hard to pick any particular thing
 - b. Walk down street and meet friends
 1. Long standing
 2. People just met yesterday
 2. How grateful I am for my friends
- VI. Family

1. Young lady secretary to lawyers
 - a. Earlier this year mother ill not expected to live
 - b. Grateful they could all be together this thanksgiving
 - c. Fred Sullens
2. Oh, how thankful we should be for our families! (neighbors told Dr. Blake)

VII. May I add some of my own in which you may wish to join all

1. Above everything else am grateful I am a Christian
 - a. Believe in God
 1. My God
 2. Cares for me
 - b. Christ
 1. Savior
 2. Friend and companion
 3. He will help at all times
 - c. Know have heavenly home
2. Grateful for Church
 - a. Gives me place of service to Christ
 1. Do what would not do alone
 2. Money put together – Mrs. White microscope
 - b. Give me peace of sweetest friendship and fellowship
 - c. Gives me place of worship and place to learn

Conclusion:

1. Grateful for God and what He gives us.
2. We should be grateful for the starting of our new church.