

Life on Life

Women's Bible Study

Learn the Word, Live the Word, And Love Each Other.

Tuesdays @ 9:30 am • Education Center Youth Room A

LOL CALENDAR

November 2018

- 11/06/18** | • Facilitator Meeting
• Fall Centerpiece Contest
- 11/13/18** | • Potluck
• Special Feature
- 11/20/18** | • No Life on Life
- 11/27/18** | • Bible Bootcamp
• Wreath Making Workshop
- OTHER OCBF EVENTS:
- 11/12/18** | • Mammogram Screenings
- 11/17/18** | • Holiday Cooking Demonstration
- 11/18/18** | • Cholesterol & Glucose Checks

For more info on events, visit
ocbfchurch.org/events

Thanksgiving Is an Attitude of the Heart



By Chinedu Okafor

“Thanksgiving” is one of an American traditional celebration that occurs once a year. As Christians, we are constantly taught to be thankful and to always have an attitude of gratitude. According to the Bible, we are to give thanks in everything (*I Thessalonians 5:18*). However, the truth is that many people, including myself, find it challenging to be thankful all the time when so many “unthankful things” are happening all around us. It only takes a few seconds of watching the news to see or hear about all the terrible things happening in the world.

Also, we need only to look around our lives to notice so many things that can make one not to be thankful. Could it be that phone call from the doctor about a diagnosis? Could it be a sudden death of a loved one? Could it be the loss of your job? Could it be that “wayward” child that you feel may not be in the will of God? Could it be broken relationships or an increase of divorce among family and friends? No matter the issues at hand, the good news is that we can never be able to

count all our blessings. You see, having an attitude of gratitude is all about focus. What you focus on will often produce the right or the wrong attitude. Thanksgiving truly does not have to be a yearly celebration. We can celebrate it daily by simply allowing our hearts and minds to stay focused on the right things. I believe that scripture gives us a clear remedy in *Philippians 4:8 (KJV)*, which states - *Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on*

these things. As we meditate on these things, and as we reflect on all that the Lord has done for us, I believe that an attitude of gratitude and thanksgiving will begin to control and rule our hearts. This doesn't mean that "bad things" don't happen; it simply means that we don't focus on them because we trust that God will work it all out. He has promised that all things work together for good to them that love God and are the called according to his purpose (*Romans 8:28*). It is also important to understand that in counting our blessings, our natural response should be to want to give back to a God Who has given us so much. We should be moved to use our blessings, including our time, talent, and treasure, not only for our enjoyment, but for God's Glory, and for the benefit of our fellow man. This is proper stewardship, as pastor Evans is teaching us lately. When all has been said and done, I believe that the scripture makes it clear that the Lord only requires us to be counted faithful stewards (*I Corinthians 4:2*) in whatever and wherever He has positioned us.



Gratitude Challenge



THIS MONTH, PRACTICE STARTING EACH DAY WITH TELLING THE LORD WHAT YOU ARE GRATEFUL FOR.

"LORD, I AM GRATEFUL FOR ____."

Let's kick off this challenge by finding something to be thankful for that starts with each letter of "GRATEFUL".

G _____

R _____

A _____

T _____

E _____

F _____

U _____

L _____

