

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Dec. 23, 2012



“In everything give thanks”

by Clifton Angel

If you are anything like me, forgetting is a daily exercise. And because I forget daily, I can get caught up in the daily “doing,” accumulate many things “to do,” and then develop a negative attitude about having to accomplish those things on the “to do” list. I caught myself allowing this to happen, once again, recently. I think it was when I was doing something as simple as laundry. It is simple, but it takes time and effort, and it allows me to dwell on the many other things I have “to do.” Will you consider with me a revolution of the negative mindset I had developed while doing laundry?

Doing my laundry requires that I first have laundry. This means that I have been blessed with clothing. But, I had a lot of laundry that had accumulated over time of neglect, while I tended to other things I had “to do.” Do you know what that means? Not only do I have clothing, but I have an abundance of clothing. Wow! Not everyone in the world has such options and abundance in clothing as I do, yet, the revolution of mindset continues. “In everything give thanks.”

I have a house. Yes, a roof and walls that shield me from the weather and preserve my abundance of clothing. Not everyone in the world has a house, and some that do still may not be shielded from weather as much as I. “In everything give thanks.” The revolution continues.

I have electricity connected to my house. Electricity provides that I can see to do my laundry and other “to do’s” even...

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

VISITORS, WELCOME!

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for
all ages & Pew Packers
each Sunday at 12:30

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ELDERS

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W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Jim Jackson

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

...after dark. Electricity provides that the pump in my well pumps water to my house for multiple uses, one being the function of my electric washing machine. Do you see where I am going with this? “In everything give thanks.” Not only do I have laundry, which only naturally gets soiled and needs cleaning, but I also have VERY efficient means by which I can clean the laundry. I do not have to go out (and going out, implies that I have an “inside”) in the weather multiple times to draw water from the well using a rope and a bucket. I do not have to scrub my clothes by hand or rub them down a washboard. What wonderful blessings we have! “In everything give thanks.” But the revolution of mindset is not finished.

My electricity also propels my automatic dryer. I do not have to fight the weather to hang my clothing on a clothes line, in hopes that it will not rain and the wind will not damage them. I do not have to wait hours for them to dry. “In everything give thanks.”

Now, here comes the part where I really challenge us to think. What if we did not have the electricity? What if we did not have the automatic washers and dryers? What if we did not have the abundance of clothing? What if we did not have the automatic well pump? Could we be thankful and content? Do normal, and even small, tasks like doing laundry cause you stress? Do you ever develop a negative mindset in your daily “doing” of things on the “to do” list?

“In everything give thanks.” The Apostle Paul penned these words in a letter to the church at Thessalonica (1 Thessalonians 5:18). The same man, while in prison for rightful doing, wrote these words:

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you. (Philippians 4:4–8, NKJV).

This Week’s Daily Bible Reading:

Sunday:	2 Peter
Monday:	1 John
Tuesday:	2 John – Jude
Wednesday:	Revelation 1 – 3
Thursday:	Revelation 4 – 8
Friday:	Revelation 9 – 12
Saturday:	Revelation 13 – 16

I might also venture to say that Paul did not have electricity. He did not have an automatic washer, an automatic dryer, an automatic well pump (should I include in the list our cellular phones, tablets, computers, et al.?). Paul, how could you have such a positive mindset? "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:11–13).

Because I forget, I need to be reminded of such passages. I need to be reminded of Paul's example. You see, Paul's happiness did not come from "things," his happiness came from "thanks."

Sermon Review

God: He is Listening

- I. In Times of Tranquility
- II. In Times of Trial
- III. In Times of Trouble
- IV. In Times of Transgression
- V. In Times of Tragedy

Birth of Christ:

A Supernatural Conception

(Gen. 3:15; Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38)

- I. Natural Conception (Gen 1:26-28)
- II. God's Providence (Matt 1; Luke 1)

*As we have therefore opportunity,
let us do good unto all men (Gal 6:10)*

Below: Jason & Ginger deliver gifts to Brigmon family (Linsey & Ryan pictured). **Right:** Clifton & Jim deliver gifts for grandchildren of Carlene Jaco.



NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Nora Boling, has not been feeling well lately. Various ones battling seasonal illnesses; Various ones will be traveling for the holidays.

Wiley & Betty Tuggle; Sara Norris; Herbert & Helen Bowman; Sue Cobern

**OpenDoor Ministry
Fishers of Men
Far East Missions**

Family & Friends

Terry Hawkins, to undergo surgery because of breast cancer; **Potts & Stampley Families; Vicki Angel** is doing seemingly well after receiving medicine for the diverticulitis. **Barbara Denton**, friend of Molly, stage 3 cervical cancer. **Brigmon Family; Janice Jenkins**, co-worker to Beverly Hayes, rare form of cancer. **Carla Carlson** and her battle with cancer. **Gema Winchester** and her battle with stomach cancer. **Matthew Canada; Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler, cancer; **David Angel; Doris Easley; Tate Williams' Family; Curtis A. Cates; Frederick Bland; Eli Williams; Ray Maples; Wayne Collinsworth; Andrew Hagedwood; Janie Brister; Chuck Tharp; Renee Loya; Aubree Harris; Virginia Mayfield; Peyton Harville; Bob Spurlin; David Bragg.**

December Birthdays

12/05 Jimmy Yarbro
12/17 Kaiden Ferrell
12/22 Dalton Owen
12/23 Jeremy Moore
12/24 Daniel Owen
12/27 Reese Kinney
12/30 Renee Davis

December Anniversaries

12/10 Beau & Maira Davis
12/13 Jerry & Renee Davis

Get Involved!

Daily Bible Reading Calendar 2012

Let's continue to read and study together!!

Wednesday Night Singing -- Dec. 26 -- 7PM

5th Sunday Singing & Devo -- Dec. 30 -- 1PM

New Year's Eve Party -- Dec 31 - Jan 1

Standing in the Gap Lectureship at Nesbit
January 25-27, 2013

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, December 23

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Billy Bland
Announcements	Jason Bayless
Song Leader	Jared Brown
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Joe Owen
Assist	Dalton Owen
	Jerry Davis
Opening Prayer	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Ron Johnson

Afternoon

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Opening Prayer	Seth Daniel
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Joe Owen
	Dalton Owen
Closing Prayer	Jim Jackson

Wednesday, December 26

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Prayer	Jim Jackson
Invitation	Tim Wilkes, II
Prayer	Andy Ratliff