



Inspire

Just Be...GRATEFUL!

Gratitude Pumpkin

Here is an easy craft to do for the month of November. Buy a pumpkin. It can be real or faux. If real, buy it as close to Halloween as possible and be sure to wash and dry it. To make it look decorative, you can tie a ribbon on the stem. Using a sharpie, each day write 1-3 things that you and your family are thankful for: big things as well as little things. By the end of November your pumpkin will be filled with everything you're thankful for.



INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS from the Territory

Auburn, CA corps officer sent weekly devotions and encouragement to her women. The women in turn sent encouraging mail to the Corps Officer sharing how much they appreciated what she was doing and encouraged her to keep going.

Gresham, OR women have been study the book of Acts, chapter by chapter.

Modesto, CA did "Processing Covid-19 through Crafts" program. As they made a craft they talked about some of the feelings, struggles, fears and anxieties as well as what the Bible says.

Pendleton, OR started a Facebook pages so ladies can post prayer needs. Also on this page, are daily devotionals and questions of the day to keep the ladies engaged.

Portland Tabernacle, OR has been holding Bible studies (led by retired officer, Lt. Colonel Barbara Hunter) in a local shopping center parking lot. Everyone brings their own chairs, refreshments and snacks.

Ridgecrest, CA held a virtual WM tea and started a Facebook page, "Virtual Women's Ministries Group."

Santa Clara, CA are staying connected with their women by visiting through "porch pop by flowers."

Sunnyvale/Mountain View, CA have been holding their socially—distanced Bible Study meetings in the backyard of the corps.

Take a Gratitude Challenge

By John Hilton III and Anthony Sweat

Let's not just talk about counting our blessings—let's do it! Write a list of 100 things you are thankful for. If that sounds like it is too many, try this:

- Write 10 physical abilities you are grateful for.
- Write 10 material possessions you are grateful for.
- Write 10 living people you are grateful for.
- Write 10 deceased people you are grateful for.
- Write 10 things about nature you are grateful for.
- Write 10 things about today you are grateful for.
- Write 10 places on earth you are grateful for.
- Write 10 modern inventions you are grateful for.
- Write 10 foods you are grateful for.
- Write 10 things about the gospel you are grateful for.

When we make a list like this, we discover that a list of 100 doesn't even begin to scratch the surface of all things God has given us.

Commissioner Colleen Riley—Territorial President of Women's Ministries

Colonel Donna Igleheart—Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries

Major Beth Desplancke—Territorial Women's Ministries Program Secretary

Be sure to check out our website for more resources: <https://usw-womensministries.org/>

30 Days of Thankfulness

Spend the month of November reading and meditating on what God's Word has to say about giving thanks and praise to God.

1. 1 Chronicles 16:7-24
2. 1 Chronicles 16:25-34
3. 1 Chronicles 29:10-13
4. Psalm 9:1-10
5. Psalm 28:1-9
6. Psalm 75:1-10
7. Psalm 92:1-5
8. Psalm 95:1-7
9. Psalm 98:1-9
10. Psalm 100:1-5
11. Psalm 103:1-22
12. Psalm 106:1-5
13. Psalm 107:1-22
14. Psalm 107:23-43
15. Psalm 136:1-26
16. Psalm 147:1-11
17. Isaiah 51:1-3
18. Jonah 2:1-9
19. Luke 17:11-19
20. Romans 7:21-25
21. 1 Corinthians 15:56-58
22. 2 Corinthians 2:14-17
23. 2 Corinthians 9:6-15
24. Ephesians 5:15-21
25. Colossians 1:9-14
26. Colossians 2:6-7
27. Colossians 3:15-17
28. Colossians 4:2-6
29. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
30. Revelation 7:9-17

Grateful for What the Lord Has Done

Has the Lord made a change in your life? If so, we should never have an unthankful day. The Apostle Paul shares in Colossians 1, five things that the Lord has done for believers, which cause us to be overflowing with thankfulness and share what He has done with others.

1. We can be grateful to God for we are QUALIFIED (v. 12).

As believers, we have been qualified to share in the inheritance that belongs to His people. Qualified means fitted (as by training or experience) for a given purpose; competent, eligible. Because you have asked Christ into your heart as your personal Savior, you are qualified, competent and eligible to receive His inheritance. God loves me so much He is sharing His riches with me; I will have a beautiful inheritance – a home in heaven with Him, spending time face to face with Him for eternity. Christ made it possible; He qualified you, to receive this glorious inheritance.

2. We can be grateful to God for we have been RESCUED (v. 13).

To rescue means to free from confinement, danger, or evil; to save or deliver. Before we came to Christ we were confined to sin, we were in danger of death. The Bible says the wages or payment of sin is death (Romans 6:23). We all were facing death for our sins, but God rescued us from that impending punishment. He came and died in our place so we could be saved. We have been rescued from the dominion of darkness and brought into the Kingdom of the Son.

3. We can be grateful to God for we have been REDEEMED (v. 14).

To redeem means to buy back, to repurchase; to free from what distresses or harms; to free from captivity by payment of ransom. We owed God a tremendous debt for our sins – our very lives, and instead God sent His only Son to die on the cross for our sins. Jesus paid for us, purchased us with His blood (1 Peter 1:18-19).


4. We can be grateful to God for we have been RECONCILED (v. 21-22).

To reconcile means to restore to friendship or harmony, to settle or resolve; it also means in financial terms to check against another for accuracy, to account for. Our sin separates from God, we were His enemies due to our evil thoughts and actions, but then Christ died on the cross and shed his blood for our sins, and we received Him as our personal Savior, we were reconciled, restored in a relationship with God. We were restored. We are friends of God not His enemy!

5. We can be grateful to God for we have been CLEANSED (v. 22b).

Before coming to the Lord, we were in filthy rags, dirty with sin. God is holy and can't be around sin. But because of Christ's death, we can be purified of our sins. We are cleansed and we can appear before the Lord holy and blameless, without any single fault. When we receive Christ as our Savior, we are declared clean – the sins are gone, and no longer held against us. And when we ask for forgiveness of our sins, each and every time we are cleansed (1 John 1:9).

Because of what the Lord did for us, every day should be Thanksgiving Day!



**“GIVE THANKS
TO THE LORD, FOR HE IS
GOOD; HIS LOVE ENDURES
FOREVER. LET THE
REDEEMED
OF THE LORD TELL
THEIR STORY...”**

-PSALM 107:1-2

Fighting Words