

## Thanksgiving - What Comes To Mind

A few days ago, I was thinking about the Thanksgiving holiday. As a child, I remember my family traveling to the old house on Wednesday night. It would be cold since the only heat came from a woodburning stove in the living room and the kitchen stove. But it meant we had more than a few days to be on the farm. Mom would cook a turkey and all the fixings to go along with it. At times Dad, Mike, and I would go hunting Thursday morning while mom and Sharon cooked.

There were times those days were not too much fun. If there was tobacco to strip, we would be in a cold damp barn most of the day. We would take time out to go to the house and eat but we would go back to work afterward. However, even those days weren't that bad as we would talk while working and have some humorous conversations. Most Thanksgivings were not spent in the barn but in the house. Those days I got to watch some football games if they were on channel 13 out of Bowling Green. Cable TV, Direct TV or Dish had not come along yet so we weren't missing out on much.

I figure a lot of people did not have what we had. Some were in the military in other countries. During the Vietnam War many men would have loved to be in that barn of ours instead of a jungle or rice field. Others would have loved to have a warm place to sleep, and/or food to eat. Still others would have loved to have good health and folks to spend time with.

One thing that made Thanksgiving special was our ability to be around mom and dad. Dad loved the farm, it was his "happy place." Mom did not seem to care about cooking on a wood stove, or not having indoor plumping. I never heard her complain about the living conditions. The closest was when she would talk about us having a house in Louisville with gas heat and running water.

Looking back, I realize we had plenty to be thankful for as we grew up. But those blessings have not stopped. We now have the modern conveniences of life including 700 television channels. We have our family, which is pretty

awesome in and of itself. We have good health, and brethren to worship with as we serve God.

I hope this Thanksgiving finds everyone in a truly thankful frame of mind. Don't complain about those dirty finger prints on the doors or walls. Don't wish for more than you can handle, and don't forget to appreciate your blessings as you pray to God. – Dennis Tucker