

## *A Word From the Publisher*

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Happy Thanksgiving! Hopefully, by the time most of you read this, you are ready to enjoy your Thanksgiving dinner or have already enjoyed it. Oh my, there is just something about the smell of that turkey cooking on Thanksgiving morning. I guess I learned and kept that tradition from my mom. I can remember waking up and smelling the house filled with the yummy aroma of turkey. It takes a little effort to get up and put it in the oven and make sure to get up to take it out, but it's worth it!

Thanksgiving...what does that really mean? Actually, in my mind it's pretty easy, giving thanks. Many people may think in the world we live in there is not much to give thanks about. How wrong you are! Yes, this world is a big mess but...you must look closer than that. We are so blessed to live in the greatest country in the world. Sometimes, I think we all get so busy that we forget about the little things of life, which are really the big things...like waking up each morning. Being thankful isn't a hard thing to do. While reading a devotional one day, it recommended to make a list of things (or people) I'm thankful for. Before I realized I had a full page of thanks! It really is easy to complain about everything under the sun and some people find fun in that.

This time of year reminds me of how blessed I truly am. I have a wonderful husband that loves and cares for me. I have strong caring Christian parents that, even though I'm grown, continue to help me remember God's faithfulness each and every day. Our children and grandchildren are happy and healthy

and we're blessed to have our siblings close at hand. I have a job that I enjoy and God continues to bless. I want for nothing and that's a great place to be. I don't say that in a boasting way, but a thankful way.

During this Thanksgiving holiday, there are people who are hurting. Many have lost loved ones or are dealing with health issues. The one thing we can do is to pray for each other. Did you know you can pray anytime? Many of my prayers are done while I'm washing dishes,

driving, sitting on my porch. Did you know our God is always available? He is just waiting for us to call upon Him with our thanks or troubles, just ask and He is there. In this ever changing world, I serve a God that never changes. Boy, I know He has fun dealing with me sometimes! He, our Lord and Savior, is always the same.

I pray that you will be able to celebrate Thanksgiving with your family or at least spend a little time with family. Life is short and we don't know what tomorrow may hold. We need to take advantage of each and every opportunity to spend time with the ones you love. Life is hard and sometimes very busy but you have to take time to just be still. We serve an awesome God that provides our breath each and every day. Perhaps it's time for us to just thank Him for His mercy and grace.

Thanksgiving Blessings!

*Dawn S. West*

