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The Attitude of Gratitude



As we approach the holidays, we are counting our blessings - every one. We feel incredibly fortunate to live where we do and to have the opportunities we are afforded. This month we asked our clients "What are you thankful for? How do you stay grateful in our struggling economy? How are you teaching your children to have an attitude of gratitude?" The answers we got warmed our hearts. We hope they will uplift and inspire you this season of thanksgiving.

What Our Clients are Thankful for This Season.

I am grateful to be experiencing the wonder of pregnancy with my husband, and to be welcoming a new life in just a few weeks. While we are not wealthy, we have more than enough to meet our needs and to help others meet theirs. I am grateful that even in a struggling economy, the most priceless things are truly not things, but moments with those we love, and moments we spend showing our love to others.

Alisha Krukowski

The most effective way for me to keep my blessings in perspective is to distinguish between my needs and wants. If my needs are fulfilled, that is worth a great deal of gratitude. If I can indulge in wants beyond my needs, I am truly blessed. The best way to teach our children is leading by example and showing them that earned privileges hold much more meaning than superfluous ones. **Christel Milak-Parker**

As a foster family, our biological children are reminded frequently that they are very fortunate to have not only a warm home, food, and toys, but also PARENTS. Parents who love them and take care of them. They are seeing with their own eyes that not all children have the very things that we so often take for granted. Things like love, security, a home, etc. We are so very, very blessed!!!

Tracy Scoggins

I am grateful for all the little things in our lives that we have become so easily accustomed to taking for granted.

Tracey Moody

Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it. **William Arthur Ward**

I can honestly say I thank the good Lord every time I turn onto Scot's Landing Road. EVERYTIME.
Shelley Rhea

I try to live by the creed.....**"To whom much is given, much is expected"**. This summer I spent a week in Kentucky on a mission trip to help low income families. While I was there to make a difference in their lives, I found that it was these less fortunate children that made a difference in my life. Additionally, throughout the year I work with a blind gentleman in the West End helping him by having his mail sent to my house, grocery shopping, and transportation. I have learned that to make a friend you sometimes have to be a friend! **Dave Kern**

Without a doubt, we are grateful for our daughter, who is a beautiful light in our life. She is a gift. Sometimes it is important to remind ourselves of the power of a simple thank you or a smile of encouragement, or sharing a laugh - these things have a power all their own. And, we try to focus on the idea that to those much has been given, much is expected. Perhaps we can't help everyone, but we can help someone, so let's begin right here. **Connie Masella**

In my current position I have the responsibility to prepare and deploy 20-30 personnel a month into Afghanistan. They are civilian social scientists (PhD) and are helping the military understand the complexities of the Afghanistan culture in order for the military to reduce violence and improve the governance and economics in that country. I am grateful/thankful that there are Americans that are willing to put their lives on the line in support of our national defense. Every single day.

Mark Bartholf COL, SF with the US Army

Even with ALL the changes in the banking and mortgage industry, I still love my job and am grateful to provide sound, economic, financing solutions for my clients. **Michelle Curley**

I'm thankful for the loose change I always find at my feet at gas stations, grocery stores, and coffee shops. I typically find a few dollars per month in value. I always immediately "pay that change forward in the charity coin boxes" I'll find at McDonald's, Panera Bread, Wawa, etc. I believe if it's found money, it wasn't mine in the first place. I feel like it gives a smile to the Lord, and the Lord responds to that small gesture. I'm grateful that God reminds me that it's always important to count my blessings, and there are always blessings to count. **Dave Gorman**

I am grateful for life, a reasonable portion of health, shelter and food. I realize each day many people are suffering. I pray for their survival and I hope that life will improve. **LJ Mapp**

I try and remind myself of the things that I am blessed to have. The more I do this the less I complain. I say a blessing each night with my kids where they talk about gratitude. I go first and they follow. This way they learn. We talk with our kids about life in other countries and places and how fortunate we are. **Greg Cowart**



Mark Adams Team®

*Warmest Wishes for a
Happy Thanksgiving!*

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