

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

This article was written by yours truly five years ago. As I was reviewing what to write for this message, I came across it. It is just as pertinent today as it was then, perhaps even more so. This last 18 months or so has taken a toll on many. It seems our losses, in some cases, have been unmeasurable. It's been updated a little to reflect our current times. The message however is timeless. Enjoy! And Happy Thanksgiving!

*Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.
Psalm 100:4-5*

Thanksgiving is today followed closely by Christmas and then the New Year. It feels like we are making up for lost time. Food to cook...family to see...parties to go to...gifts to buy...all while trying to stay "safe". It all seems so overwhelming and near impossible to think about being thankful for anything.

So much is going on for so many folks right now. Unemployment, health problems, increasing costs, difficult relationships, unexpected circumstances, isolation and the list goes on. Every day seems to bring a new challenge into our lives. It is hard to focus on the positive when there are so many negatives.

You have heard the old saying "that which does not kill us makes us stronger". Well, we should all be Hercules by now!

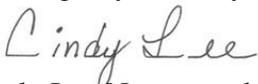
We do get by though don't we? I mean you are reading this, so you are still here. Right? Ever wonder how? I'll tell you. It's the power of God that works in all of us. A power unseen but not unfelt. It's through God's mercy that each and every one of us is still on this earth. Not that we are worthy, because we are not. It is because we are loved by a God who looks beyond all of our shortcomings to the heart within. Now that is something to be thankful for.

"For God so loved the world..." The scripture doesn't say only certain people or groups of people, it says the WORLD. Into this world, He sent "his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life". "Whosoever" - that's us...you and me. He loved us so much; He gave us the ability to have everlasting life. Not just any life, but a life in glory with Him.

Nothing to be thankful for? Wrong answer. No matter how horrible life on this earth may be, God loves us. And that is certainly worth celebrating and being thankful for.

*Christmas is coming, The geese are getting fat,
Please to put a penny in the old man's hat.
If you haven't got a penny, a ha'penny will do,
If you haven't got a ha'penny, God bless you.*

Blessing to you always,



Cindy Lee Nonnemacher
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