

With great enthusiasm I greet you in the MIGHTY NAME of JESUS CHRIST, our blessed LORD who gives us the precious gifts of PEACE, JOY & HOPE. I pray that HIS LOVE & GRACE touches you in a NEW way. GOD LOVES those dearly who seek HIS face DAILY & HIS LOVE is EVERLASTING (Jer. 31:3).

November continued to be a heavy & fruitful month of ministry & well over 450 gave their lives to CHRIST or rededicated. There were 4 services at the LA. Co. Jail & there were over 100 inmates attending 3 of the services. There were large harvests. ALL received the Arsenal Prayer (www.melnovak.com). I also counseled scores of inmates. (14 hours) Another blessed service was at the Chino Women's Prison where there were over 100 ladies at the service. They are hungry for the WORD there & we had at least 75 who prayed the Sinners Prayer.

On the 1st Sunday, I drove to Angeles Oaks (near Big Bear) & was a guest speaker for Javier Rodriguez Men's Retreat (Calvary Chapel) for the 4th time. The theme of the retreat was "More of the LORD & less of me." It was a time of healing, growth & increased faith for over 50 brothers in CHRIST. All of the Skid Row Mission Services were packed & as always, tens of thousands were fed with a Thanksgiving nutritious meal. It still amazes me that so many are homeless & I PRAISE GOD for the missions.

Yes, it was THANKSGIVING this month, but really, EVERY DAY is one of thanksgiving when we are communing with the LORD, SERVING (Matt. 20:28; Mk. 10:45) & PRAISING HIM. We should count our BLESSINGS DAILY. I believe that PRAISING GOD has to be a CORNERSTONE of our lives. PRAISE is a theme that runs throughout scripture. I start every sermon with, "PRAISE THE LORD CHURCH!" In Ps. 18:3, "GOD alone is worthy of our PRAISE." In Ps. 50:23, "it is GOD'S WILL that we PRAISE HIM." Our PRAISE should be continuous (Ps. 34:1). Too many only PRAISE HIM when they are lavishly blessed. PRAISE is a MIGHTY weapon against our enemy, the defeated one, satan. I guarantee, when you are hit with an affliction or adversity, start PRAISING GOD "ANYHOW", & the devil will flee. Remember it is not if you are going to go through a troubled time, it is when & how hard you will be hit (Ps. 34:19). PRAISE is & always will be a powerful weapon & part of GOD'S ARSENAL. I PRAISE GOD DAILY for HIS WORD (Ps. 138:2; Ps. 119:89; Prov. 4: 20-22) , for HIS promises (II Cor. 1:20), for HIS LOVE, COMPASSION, MERCY & GRACE. There are multitudes of things to

PRAISE GOD for. What about that HE is a GOD of the impossible (Luke 1:37, Matt. 19:26), that NOTHING is too hard for HIM (Jer. 32:17 & 27; Gen. 18:14), & that HE does NOT show partiality (Rom. 2:11; Acts 10:24; Deu.10:17).

When I was a Chaplain in the pycs.ward of the L.A. Co. Hospital, there was a ward with 13 to 16 year olds that were vegetables. Their brains were fried from drugs. It still haunts me. I tell those who took heavy & dangerous drugs & still have a sound mind to PRAISE GOD EVERY DAY.

Thanksgiving is about PRAISING GOD & is intended to be part of EVERY CHRISTIAN'S LIFE. I share Ps. 92:1, 2 in most sermons. It is good to give thanks to the LORD to sing PRAISES to YOUR name, O MOST HIGH, to declare YOUR LOVING KINDNESS in the morning & YOUR FAITHFULNESS every night. Many times I ask those I counsel, Do you spend more time asking GOD for things, or THANKING & PRAISING HIM for WHO HE is? Study Ps. 92:1-5. How & when are we to express gratitude & PRAISE toward GOD? PRAISING HIS name (Ps. 92:3); Music is another way to offer THANKS (Ps. 92:3); HOLY living (Lev. 11:44); Generosity to others, a giving heart (Matt. 25:40); Public worship & day-long private worship (Ps. 92:2-3).

Why do we PRAISE HIM? Since GOD'S will is that we give THANKS in everything (I Thess. 5:18), our motivation for thanksgiving & gratitude should NOT be simply the good things GOD has done for us ñ that would mean we are sometimes grateful & sometimes NOT. Instead, our PRAISE should be prompted by demonstrations of GOD'S power, shown in HIS creation (Ps. 148), HIS redemption (Exodus 15:1-3) & providential care (Ps. 23:1). There are so many benefits of PRAISE & THANKSGIVING. PRAISE sets the devil on the run. PRAISE rejoices our spirit. PRAISE takes my focus off what I'm going thru & on the ONE who can deliver me. PRAISE dispels doubt, the killer of faith. PRAISE & THANKSGIVING remind us of dependence upon the LORD for EVERYTHING. Heartfelt PRAISE releases one from anxiety (Phil 4:6) the thief of PEACE (Phil. 4:7). PRAISE & THANKSGIVING reinforces our faith by reminding us of past blessings, miracles, healings & deliverance while strengthening us for what HE wants to do in the future. PRAISE refreshes our relationship & our intimacy with GOD. START PRAISING & WATCH!!!

We benefit from our gratefulness because expressing thanks strengthens our faith by calling to mind HIS blessings (Ps. 103:2; Deu. 4:9-10). People who observe our thankfulness are reminded that GOD is the source of their blessings too (Ps. 145:4). Lastly, the LORD is magnified, glorified & pleased when HIS children thank HIM (Ps. 69:30). I spend a great deal of time DAILY, PRAISING HIM. I think of all the years HE gave me when I should have been dead. I take nothing for granted. To be able to see, walk, talk, hear & have full

use of my bodily functions, I PRAISE HIM. Read my testimony. I PRAISE HIM DAILY for taking my place on the cross, for the awesome gift of eternal life.

May the Lord bless you & keep you. To you who BLESSED me with a love offering, I thank you & PRAISE HIM.

In His Majesty's Service,

Mel Novak