

Call of Grace Ministries

Come unto Me . . . I will give you rest

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Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations.

Psalm 100:4-5 (NKJV)

Offerings. Offerings are something that are given, or offered, as a part of worship. For the Israelites, all offerings included sacrifice, something that was offered in an irrevocable fashion, in a way that did not allow the offering to be taken back. Hence the name: sacrifice. There were different categories or types of offerings, One of these is the Thank Offering or Offering of Thanksgiving.

The Thank Offering is just what the name implies: expressing your thanks to God for what He has done. For the Believer today, this giving of thanks to the Lord is also a sacrifice as the expression of thanks, whether silent or vocal, cannot be taken back once it is given. The Thank Offering also includes the giving of praise: the joyful expression to God that testifies to His Character and His Actions. The praise of the Believer echoes the cries of the hosts of heaven and foreshadows our destiny at the end of the age when God's dwelling place is with men. Thanks and praise then are the expressions of joy and gratitude that glorify and commend the Lord for who He is, what He has done, and what He has promised to do. Thanks and praise are given for the past and present. They are also given in anticipation of God's coming kingdom when He will dwell with us!

What are you thankful for today? Are you thankful for this day that the Lord created and sustains? Do you give Him praise for the breath you just took; an action that's autonomous so you don't have to think about it when you breathe the air that the Lord has provided? Are you thankful that the Lord loves you; a fact He so matchlessly expressed when He died on the Cross to provide you with the opportunity to receive forgiveness and become His child? As the Psalmist has written, *"Be thankful to Him, and bless His name".*

The Lord appears to be giving us a respite in our preaching schedule just in time for us to prepare to ring the bell for the Salvation Army. This outreach has a dual purpose. We will have the opportunity to share Jesus through tracts, prayer (requested by many), Gospel conversations, and music. The funds raised through this will be used by the Lord through the Salvation Army to meet the material needs of others in the name of Jesus. Last year, we handed out over 6,000 Christmas-themed tracts during this outreach. If you live in our area and would like to help us with this outreach, please contact us. If you live outside Southern Illinois and desire to do this where you live let us know; it would be a blessing to pray for you and help in any way we can.

We will also have a presence in and at one of the local parades. The Lights Fantastic parade is in Carbondale, IL. We will have multiple banners displaying Scripture being carried in the parade to share the hope of the season: our Lord Jesus Christ! Lord willing, we will also have teams handing out Gospel tracts at this event, as well as others in the area.

Cindy and I want you to know that we are thankful to the Lord for you. You have prayed for and supported this ministry. Many of you have served alongside us at various venues. We thank the Lord for each of you and your desire to see Him lifted before others.

Until Jesus comes,

Dennis & Cindy Mohr

Please be in prayer for the following:

- The Salvation Army Outreach and other Christmas outreach opportunities.
- Mission to Mardi Gras 2018 - Mardi Gras is in early February. We are in preparation for this event.
- Next year's calendar - We are seeking the Lord's wisdom for an expansion of ministry opportunities for 2018.
- Please continue to ask the Lord to grant Cindy and I the privilege of sharing Jesus whenever and wherever the opportunity arises.

Call of Grace Ministries is a 501(c)3 ministry and your contributions are tax deductible.

We go as God provides and your support of this ministry as an offering to the Lord is a blessing to us as we move forward in the Lord's call.