

## Lessons

SCC Message by John Aldax, November 30, 2014

1. How \_\_\_\_\_ to you?

2. Take \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ your children, your grandchildren, the children of our church, in the “way they should go.” (Proverbs 22:6)

Get in the \_\_\_\_\_ of being and expressing \_\_\_\_\_

3. It’s easy to find things to \_\_\_\_\_ and hard to find things for which \_\_\_\_\_ . . . work at it and \_\_\_\_\_ . (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

## Give Thanks

*Joshua 4 – <sup>1</sup> When all the people had crossed the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, <sup>2</sup> “Now choose twelve men, one from each tribe. <sup>3</sup> Tell them, ‘Take twelve stones from the very place where the priests are standing in the middle of the Jordan. Carry them out and pile them up at the place where you will camp tonight.’”*

*<sup>4</sup> So Joshua called together the twelve men he had chosen—one from each of the tribes of Israel. <sup>5</sup> He told them, “Go into the middle of the Jordan, in front of the Ark of the LORD your God. Each of you must pick up one stone and carry it out on your shoulder—twelve stones in all, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>6</sup> We will use these stones to build a **memorial**. In the future your children will ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’ <sup>7</sup> **Tell them, ‘They remind us that the Jordan River stopped flowing when the Ark of the LORD’S Covenant went across.’ These stones will stand as a **memorial** among the people of Israel forever.”** . (NLT)*

## Communion the reminder of Jesus’ sacrifice

### Giving Thanks

*Psalm 100:4 – Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. (NIV)*

*Psalm 105:1 – Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. (ESV)*

*Psalm 106:1 – Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. (NIV)*

*1 Thessalonians 5:18 – . . . give thanks in all circumstances, for this is **God’s will** for you in Christ Jesus. (NIV)*

*Romans 1:18 – 24 – <sup>18</sup> But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness. <sup>19</sup> They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. <sup>20</sup> For, ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.*

*<sup>21</sup> Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn’t worship him as God or even **give him thanks**. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As*

a result, their minds became dark and confused. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. <sup>23</sup> And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people and birds and animals and reptiles.

<sup>24</sup> So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. (NLT)

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is an essential part of life.

## Abraham Lincoln 1863

**March 13, 1863** – a “Day of Humiliation, Fasting, and Prayer”

“ . . . *we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand*, which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and *we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success*, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.”

(<http://showcase.netins.net/web/creative/lincoln/speeches/fast.htm>)

**October 3, 1863** – a Day of Thanksgiving.

“No *human counsel* hath devised nor hath any *mortal hand* worked out these great things. They are the *gracious gifts of the Most High God*, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as *a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens.*”

(<http://showcase.netins.net/web/creative/lincoln/speeches/thanks.htm>)

## George Washington, October 3, 1789

“Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be. That we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks.”

(<http://gwpapers.virginia.edu/documents/thanksgiving/transcript.html>)

## Pilgrims and Wampanoag Indians, 1621, *Plymouth, Massachusetts*

**1535 King Henry VIII** broke away from the Catholic Church and created the Church of England.

During that period the Bible began to be *distributed to the common people*

**Severe persecution broke out**, under **King Henry VIII**, then **Queen Elizabeth I**, and then under **King James I**

**1593** law outlawed Puritanism and the persecution intensifies

**1608**, a group of separatists from the *Yorkshire village* of *Scrooby*, fearing for their lives, moved to Leiden, Holland.

**1620** return to *England*, hoping to get the backing of the *Virginia Company* and start a new life in the New World colony of *Virginia*.

In the **fall of 1620**, **102 passengers** and **30 crewmembers** leave *Plymouth, England* for Virginia, but instead they land at the mouth of Massachusetts Bay.

**Mayflower Compact** – “. . . for the glory of God and advancement of the Christian faith . . .”