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Principal
Greatest Attitude: Gratitude



Thanksgiving Celebration
11/20/2015
@ Main Sanctuary



Boys Basketball Schedule
Calendar Items
2016 Open House Info

Issue 5

Volume 17

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New Covenant NEWS

GRATITUDE: THE GREATEST ATTITUDE

For some students, *Thanksgiving* is just a week long break. For consumers and marketers, it's the Black Friday week. For others, it is merely the last week of November.

I believe it is critical for us to take a step back and re-consider what "Thanksgiving" is all about. Some words associated with Thanksgiving are the Pilgrims, the Mayflower, the Indians, corn, turkey, feast, prayer, etc. Those are rather heart-warming and even charming words. But, there were some painful things leading up to that first Thanksgiving day: shipwreck, starvation, deadly storms, hunger, endless labor, betrayal, loss of hope, pain, suffering, etc.

Here is my point. Thanksgiving is not just a calendar marker. Its origin is far too meaningful to dismiss it as just another holiday. And, Thanksgiving is not about just remembering good or fun memories. No, Thanksgiving is when we must all look back and remember both the good and the bad, and still offer up our praise and gratitude to God Almighty. In fact, we can only give thanks to God in light of

His sustaining power that carries us through trials and sufferings.

Some might question as to why we thank God in the midst of pain and trials. I mean, when the "bad" outweighs the "good," or when pain is so sharp and deep that it deadens your senses to joy and pleasure, why must we still seek God, why must we still praise God?



Some may ask, "If God cares for me, why does he allow so much pain or suffering in my life? If God loves my family, why are my parents divorced? If God loves me, why did my dad get sick or mom lose her job?"

There is, indeed, real pain in our lives. But, as C.S. Lewis said, "*God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.*" Did you get that? God uses pain to get our

attention. That's because we don't pay attention to God unless pain is too great to bear on our own.

Lewis captured this attitude by saying that: "*We regard God as an airman regards his parachute; it's there for emergencies but he hopes he'll never have to use it.*" That is an incisive observation.

God allows pain so that we can turn our eyes, ears, and hearts toward him. He also uses pain so that we can truly appreciate joy, pleasure, and happiness.

So, if you have pain in your life, keep in mind that that doesn't mean God is uncaring or that God doesn't exist. In fact, God is using pain to get your attention. He is knocking on your heart.

God is our good and loving Father who is willing and able to rescue us. He has proven His faithfulness through history, so we can count on Him. In fact, as we draw closer to Christmas, we should recall that God showed us His unfathomable love through the gift of His Son, Jesus. Yes! Jesus came to rescue us from the pain, snare and condemnation of sin. Talk about the greatest gift ever! In response, let us offer up *gratitude* as our offering. I'm sure He'll appreciate it!

BOYS BASKETBALL SEASON

Opponent	Date	Time	Home/Away	Address
Environ'tal Chart	11/30	6:45 PM	Away	4535 153rd Pl. Lawndale, CA 90260
Ambassador	12/1	4:00 PM	Home	
New Harvest	12/8	4:00 PM	Home	
AGBU Pasadena	12/9	4:00 PM	Away	2495 E Mountain St Pasadena, CA 91104
New Harvest	12/10	3:30 PM	Away	10130 S Gunn Ave. Whittier, CA 90605
Environ'tal Chart	12/18	6:45 PM	Away	4535 153rd Pl. Lawndale, CA 90260
Pilgrim	1/6/16	4:00 PM	Home	
St. Monica	1/8	3:45 PM	Away	855 N. Orange Grove Blvd. Pasadena,
Concordia	1/11	4:00 PM	Away	12890 Harding St. Sylmar, 91342
AGBU Pasadena	1/13	4:00 PM	Home	
Acaciawood	1/14	4:00 PM	Home	
Pilgrim	1/19	6:30 PM	Away	@ Pilgrim
Ambassador	1/20	3:15 PM	Away	540 Maple Ave, Torrance, 90503
Concordia	2/1	4:00 PM	Home	
Bethel Baptist	2/4	4:00 PM	Home	
Acaciawood	2/11	5:30 PM	Away	2200 West Sequoia Ave. Anaheim, 92801

Calendar

Items

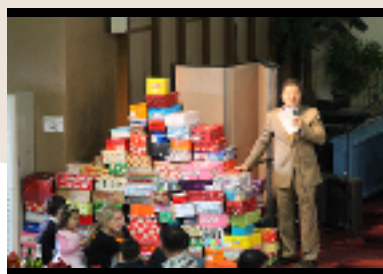
December 2015 -

January 2016



- 12/7-11 Christmas Mail
- 12/10 Locker Decor Contest
- 12/15-18 Finals
- 12/18 Christmas Service (2 PM)
- 12/19 - 1/3 Christmas Break
- 1/4 1st Day of Spring Semester
- 1/15-22 Book Fair
- 1/21 Open House
- 1/27-29 Winter Camp

THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION PIX



SPRING 2016 OPEN HOUSE @ JAN. 21

NCA's Spring Open House for 2016 prospectives will take place on January 21st, Thursday, at 7 PM. This is an important event for all students and families considering enrolling at NCA. ***All of NCA's teachers and administrators will be present to answer questions that prospective families and students might have.***

Please invite interested students and families to this event!

At the same event, NCA's current families will have their PTA meeting.

