



THE VISION

November 2017

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them and...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you...”
Amen. Matthew 28:19-20*

Thanksgiving: A Story of Persistence

I came across this devotional thought written by Kelly McFadden. The focus is on persistence and she used a few historical moments to underscore her point. Naturally, our American history always gets my attention and blesses me. I pray this devotion creates an attitude of persistence in all of us.

“Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus,” **(Philippians 3:12-14)**.

Here is a part of the Thanksgiving story you may not know. While the first Thanksgiving was celebrated in October of 1621, it was not until October of 1777 that all 13 colonies celebrated Thanksgiving for the first time. At one point, our first president, George Washington, proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving but conflict and difficulties among the colonies put an end to its observance.

It was a magazine editor, Sarah Josepha Hale, whose work led to the celebration of the Thanksgiving holiday we observe today. Hale wrote letters to governors and presidents, and editorials in magazines, books and newspapers, promoting the observance of Thanksgiving. In 1863, after 40 years of letter writing and campaigning (that’s not a typo, she really wrote

letters for 40 years), Hale’s persistence paid off and President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving. Since then, every president has supported Thanksgiving. Forty years of dedication, persistence, and passion, all to make sure that this country would celebrate a National Day of Thanksgiving each year. Impressive.

We can learn from Hale’s perseverance. It took her 40 years to accomplish what she set out to do. Just like her story, the Christian faith is often described as a marathon, not a sprint. Each day of our life is another day to choose between right and wrong, to help someone in need, to read our Bible and pray. As Paul reminds us in **Philippians 3:12-14**, Christians are called to persevere, to press on.

Sometimes it can feel like an unrewarding task. It is hard, but important, to look to God for the BIGGER plan. What if Hale had chosen to give up after one year or ten years? Her goal would have been left unfinished. Press on towards the call of Christ! Endure! But be forewarned, just like Sara Josepha Hale, it may take 40 years to see the fruit of your labor!

Beloved, God NEVER gives up on us! Let us dedicate ourselves to NEVER giving up on seeking and doing His will at Gloucester Point Baptist Church!

Happy Thanksgiving,
Pastor Bud Goude

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 804-642-2555 IF YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES OR BY EMAIL: secretary@glpointbaptist.org

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Deacon's Devotional

JOHN 15:13

“Greater love hath no man than this: that a man lay down his life for his friend.”

We may have known someone who has given their life to save someone else. It could have been a parent to save a child, or a soldier to save a comrade. In each case, it was to save someone special to them.

As we look at this verse, we see God sending His Son to the world to be crucified on a cross and die that we might all be saved through Him...a death that was given freely to all that would believe in Him and live by His example. He laid down His life for all people, even those who weren't even born.

If you were the only person on earth, God would have sent His Son to die for your sins. This IS the highest instance of love among mankind.

—Jimmy Diggs



LADIES!

You are invited to share in a special event. Gloucester Point Baptist Church WMU has the honor of hosting PBA's Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer on Monday, November 6th.

Breakfast will be served from 9:30-10:00am in the Fellowship Hall and will be followed by a Prayer Service in the sanctuary.

This broken world needs prayer desperately. We appeal to you to join us and be a channel of blessing.



The Week of Prayer for International Missions is December 3-10. Last year our goal was \$2300 and we met it! This year we are stepping out on faith and have increased our goal to \$2500!

God is so good to us all. Help us pass His goodness on. In appreciation for your support for this mission effort, the WMU will be sharing cookies with the congregation in the Narthex after the service on December 3rd.



Operation Christmas Child

The children will be packing boxes November 15th. The last Sunday to bring boxes in is November 19th.

There are some changes this year. You cannot pack candy, gum, or toothpaste. Shipping cost is \$9.00 per box. Please check the WMU center in the fellowship hall for further information.

Deacon of the Week

11/5—Leslie Belvin
11/12—Ted Fisher
11/19—Jimmy Diggs
11/26—Buddy Hogge

Nursery Workers

11/5—Beverly West
11/12—Pauline Littell
11/19—Maribel Loveland
11/26—Devon Willard

November Ushers

Barbara Mangrum
Chris Hutson
Keith Belvin
Leslie Belvin

November Tellers

Helen Spence
Bill Breeden

**CHURCH
WORKERS**

Sun. Sch. Nursery
Sharon/Howard Warren

Older Children's Church

11/5—Sarah Saunders
11/12—Jennifer/Derick Hall
11/19—Madison/Seth Gandee
11/26—Charlene/John West

Younger Children's Church

11/5—Tracy Williams
11/12—Sonya Anthony/Nancy Dyson
11/19—Denise Gandee/Mallory Wagner
11/26—Laraine Sentz/Rachel Wells

