



# Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ  
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November 23, 2008

## Don't Give Up . . .

One day I decided to quit . . .  
I quit my job, my relationship,  
my spirituality . . .  
I wanted to quit life.

I went to the woods to have  
one last talk with God.  
"God," I asked, "Can you give me  
one good reason not to quit?"

His answer surprised me . . .  
"Look around," He said. "Do you  
see the fern and the bamboo?"

"Yes," I replied.

"When I planted the fern  
and the bamboo seeds,  
I took very good care of them.  
I gave them light.  
I gave them water.

The fern quickly grew  
from the earth.  
Its brilliant green covered the floor.

Yet nothing came from  
the bamboo seed.  
But I did not quit on the bamboo,"  
He said.

"In the second year  
the fern grew more  
vibrant and plentiful.

And again, nothing came  
from the bamboo seed.

But I did not quit  
on the bamboo," He said.

"In year three there was still  
nothing from the bamboo seed.  
But I would not quit."

"In year four, again, there was  
nothing from the bamboo seed.  
I would not quit," He said.

"Then in the fifth year a tiny sprout  
emerged from the earth.  
Compared to the fern it was  
seemingly small and insignificant . .  
But just six months later  
The bamboo rose  
to over 100 feet tall."

"It had spent the five years  
growing roots.  
Those roots made it strong  
and gave it what  
it needed to survive."

"I would not give any  
of My creations a challenge  
it could not handle."

He asked me,  
"Did you know my child,  
that all this time  
you have been struggling,  
you have actually  
been growing roots?"

"I would not quit on the bamboo.  
I will never quit on you!"

"Don't compare yourself to others,"  
He said.

"The bamboo had a different  
purpose than the fern.  
Yet they both make  
the forest beautiful."

"Your time will come,"  
God said to me.  
"You will rise high."

"How high should I rise?"  
I asked.

"How high will the bamboo rise?"  
He asked in return.

"As high as it can?" I questioned.

"Yes." He said, "Give me the glory  
by rising as high as you can."

I left the forest and  
brought back this story.  
I hope these words can  
help you see that God  
will never give up on you.

Never, Never, Never Give Up!  
For the Christian, prayer is not an  
option but an opportunity.

Don't tell the Lord  
how big the problem is,  
tell the problem how Great the  
Lord is!

*Sent In By: B. J. Sheeran  
St. Louis, MO*

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## Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

We are beginning what we call the season of Thanksgiving, mostly because our forefathers set a day aside just for this. However, as children of God, we cannot, or should not, limit our thanksgiving to one day. Every day is a blessing, given to us by God that we should not forget.

Some days may not seem that good to us. We may hurt, we may see gloom. Our economy is at its worst, we are at war and our nation seems to have forgotten there is a God. How can I be thankful when there is so much negative?

We have been so blessed for more than fifty years. We may see doom and gloom but this country has been so blessed above other third world countries. God has been with us in the past. Will He continue to be with us in the future? We have not suffered perse-cution here in America. We have so much for which to be thankful, yet we hesitate to do so.

*"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God."* (Philippians 4:6) Paul did not tell us to give thanks only when something good happens to us. He said, in everything, with thanksgiving, didn't he? These words written by Paul were inspired by the Holy Spirit. It is a direct command of God to mankind.

*"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High!"* (Psalm 92:1)

We teach our children to say "thank you." We even call it one of the magic words! So, who deserves our thanks more than anyone in this world? Even through the worst of times, we can expect God to make some good of it. He has done so in the past, and He will do so in the future. Looking back, we can see it all through our life, time and time again, even during the darkest hours. Maybe we didn't see it at the time but we can certainly look back and see it. He works miracles in our lives.

Thank You God!

*"Oh, give thanks to the Lord!*

*Call upon His name;*

*Continued second column, same page*

## Remember Our Sick

**Amie Barkley** – allergic reaction to an antibiotic, affected her eyesight.

**Karen Beck** – cancer surgery success-ful, colonoscopy scheduled soon.

**Troy Curtis** – possible hip surgery again.

**Mel Davis** – had surgery, recovering.

**Hoyt Ensey** – home, seeing a surgeon Dec. 5th

**Joyce Helton** – check-up November 14th

**Iris Lawley** – having some tests run.

**Helen Moore** – Kevin Nordin's grandmother, home recovering, starting chemo soon.

**Rodney Pfeifer** – Home from St. Mary's, had pneumonia.

Shut-ins - need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Evelyn Burton**

**Robert Lee**

Russellville Nursing & Rehab Center:

**Evelyn Driver**

Stella Manor: **Louise Killer**

**Mae Vanzandt**

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Yvonne Adkisson, Amie Barkley, Bob/Carolyn Bennett, Bill Boley, Lloyd Boley, Lois Boley, Susie Boley, Tommy Causey, Eugene Cox, Troy/Rachel Curtis, Jeff Davis, Pauline Dale, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Sarah Ensey, Mark Franke, Carol Graham, Sue Griffin, Joanna & Jim Gerst, Pat Holloway, Ruby Gene Johnson, Dorothy King, Robert Paul Leavell, Rose Lee, Linda Melton, Julie Moss, Gary Nicholson, BJ/Don Sheeran, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith, Juanita Townsend, Judy Will and Patsy Wisbrock

Special Children: Zeke Church, Garrett Hogan, Tiffany Knight, Elysia Lee, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

Our Military: Cole Wetzal, D. J. Bandy and Travis Coe.

**Lines for Ladies – continued . . .**

*Make known His deeds  
among the peoples!*

*Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him;*

*Talk of all His wondrous works!*

*Glory in His holy name;*

*Let the hearts of those rejoice*

*Who see the Lord!*

*Seek the Lord and His strength;*

*Remember His marvelous works*

*Which He has done . . ."*

(I Chronicles 16:8-12a)

## Talking Turkey

Turkey is the main course at Thanksgiving meals in 90 percent of U.S. households. The average weight of the bird when purchased is 15 pounds; the largest turkey raised thus far was 86 pounds.

But the biggest turkey feather-bearing fowl is *Sesame Street's* Big Bird, clocked in about 4,000 large feathers all originating from 45-pound turkeys.

A myth about Thanksgiving . . . What did the pilgrims eat at the first Thanksgiving? They didn't have corn on the cob, apples, pears, potatoes or even cranberries. No one knows if they had turkey, although they were used to eating turkey. The only food we know they had for sure was deer.

So how did we get the idea that you have to have turkey and cranberry and such on Thanksgiving? It was because the Victorians prepared Thanksgiving that way. And they are the ones who made Thanksgiving a national holiday, beginning in 1863, when Abraham Lincoln issued his presidential Thanksgiving procla-mations . . . two of them: one to celebrate Thanksgiving in August, and a second one to celebrate in November.

Before Lincoln, Americans outside New England did not usually celebrate the holiday. The pilgrims, incident-ally, didn't become part of the holiday until late in the nineteenth century. Until then, Thanksgiving was simply a day of thanks, not a day to remember the Pilgrims.

From: ([www.hnn.us](http://www.hnn.us))

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Take time to count your many blessings, you'll be glad you did.

*Have a great Holiday;  
from the Life Lines staff!*

## Events

Dover Church of Christ  
Children's Church  
Every Sunday  
11:15 - 12:00 Noon  
Ages 4 thru 8  
Bible Story and  
Activities  
Ages 1 thru 3  
Nursery Class

\*\*\*\*\*

2008 – 2009  
Lads to Leaders  
Leaderettes  
Overall Theme:  
“... *All that You*  
*command us we will do,*  
*and wherever You send*  
*us we will go.*”  
**(Joshua 1:16)**

Lad to Leaders  
and Leaderettes  
Will meet/: First & Third  
Sundays, 4PM  
Boys: GUARD (Guys  
Understanding Authority and  
Real Discipleship  
Girls: GIFTS (Girls In  
Fellowship and Team Study

## Mark Your Calendars

Annual 2008

CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 6th, 6:00PM

Host/Hostess:  
Allen & Marilyn  
Veasman

Adults Only

Will Play the Santa Game

...

More details to follow!

Please Note:  
Dover Church of Christ's  
Wednesday Evening  
Services has been changed to  
start at 6:30 PM

The Dover Church of Christ  
office  
Will be closed:  
November 27th & 28th.  
For the Thanksgiving  
Holiday!

## November Birthdays

06 Roxanna Shoptaw  
07 Charlene Clark  
09 Kim Walters  
10 Andy Jackson  
Diane Shinn  
14 Daniel Loper  
15 Adam Pointer  
Brent Hottinger  
Chris Loper  
Michael Williams  
18 Clara Hefley  
Kevin Miller  
19 Marion Helton  
20 Carla Oakes  
29 Taylor Thomas

If we missed your birthday, *please*  
let us know so it won't happen  
again.

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“In Search of the  
Lord's Way”

Now 24/7

The Search Program can now  
be accessed any time on  
website: [www.searchtv.org](http://www.searchtv.org)

Mack Lyon's weekly lesson  
can be heard and seen on  
KARK, Channel 4  
Sunday, 7:30 AM

# THOSE TO SERVE

November 23, 2008

## Sunday A.M.

**Announcer:** Randall Walters  
**Song Leader:** Merrell Shoptaw

### Prayers

Brett Walters  
Brent Hottinger

### Communion

**Podium:** Sid Womack  
**Serve:** Jeff Myers  
Jim Killer  
Marion Helton  
Rex McDaniel

### Scripture Reading

Blake Walters

## Sunday P.M. Prayers

Allen Veasman  
Larry Mahan

# SPEAKER

**Sunday A.M.**  
Micah Williams

**Sunday P.M.**  
Ron Clark

## Prepare Table for Communion

Steve and Suzy Pennington

## Communion to Shut-Ins

Allen Veasman

### Greeters

The Elders

## Wednesday Night Devotional November 26, 2008

Marion Helton

### Meeting Times

#### Sunday Morning Bible Classes

9:45 A.M.

#### Sunday Morning Worship

10:45 A.M.

#### Sunday Evening Worship

6:00 P.M.

#### Ladies Tuesday Bible Class

10:00 A.M.

#### Wednesday Bible Classes

6:30 P.M.

**Minister:** Micah Williams

**Church Office:** 479-331-3428

**Or Cell:** 479-264-9244

### Elders:

William Boley 858-7131  
Jim Killer 331-2802  
Allen Veasman 331-2156  
Sid Womack 967-2367

### Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt  
Donny Forehand  
Brent Hottinger  
Chris Loper  
Rex McDaniel  
Chris Moss

### Nursery Attendants:

**Sunday Class:** JoAnn Killer

**Sunday Church:** Pat McAlister  
Kaeli Miller

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Dover Church of Christ  
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