

# COGA NEWS



## WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- An Attitude of Gratitude
- Land Mines of the Last Days
- Upcoming Events
- A Little Something to Laugh About



## AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

*Bishop Cecil Reid*

### Why is being grateful so important?

**Gratitude** is a powerful expression of faith, and for the church, it lies at the heart of our walk with God. Being thankful draws us closer to God, reminding us of His countless blessings and guiding us toward a deeper sense of joy, humility, and purpose. As 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Gratitude teaches us to recognize His hand in our lives, even during challenging times. It's not just about being thankful for blessings but also for His presence through every season of life.

In a world that often focuses on what we lack, gratitude reorients our hearts to what we already have and the abundance in God's love. By practicing gratitude, we become more open to serving others and spreading His love. This Thanksgiving season, let us come together as a church family to share in God's goodness and give back to those around us.



### Scriptures That Speak to the Power of Gratitude:

- **God's Goodness:** "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever" (Psalm 107:1). We are reminded to be grateful for His unchanging love.
- **Peace in Prayer:** "Do not be anxious... with thanksgiving, present your requests to God" (Philippians 4:6). Gratitude is part of prayer, bringing peace to our hearts.
- **Abundant Blessings:** "Every good and perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17). Recognizing God as the source of all blessings inspires thankfulness.
- **Strength in Hard Times:** "Give thanks in all circumstances" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Even in challenges, gratitude builds faith and resilience.
- **God's Faithfulness:** "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning" (Lamentations 3:22-23). Gratitude helps us remember God's consistent faithfulness.
- **Salvation and Grace:** "Do not be anxious... with thanksgiving, present your requests to God" (Philippians 4:6). Gratitude is part of prayer, bringing peace to our hearts.

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- **Guidance and Wisdom:** "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go" (Psalm 32:8). God's guidance is a reason for gratitude, as He promises to lead us through life's paths.
- **Strength in Weakness:** "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9). Being thankful for God's strength enables us to trust Him through our own weaknesses and challenges.

These verses and many more, highlight the importance of gratitude as a guiding principle in our lives. The benefits of gratitude help create a fulfilling, balanced life that fosters both personal growth and positive interactions with others.

Let our hearts be filled with thankfulness that leads to action, generosity, and a spirit that glorifies God in everything we do. Let's live our lives with **"An Attitude of Gratitude"**.

**"Land Mines of the Last Days"** In our November 2024 Leadership Meeting we were reminded of 2 Tim 3:1-5 *This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be:*

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Lovers of their own selves</b></li> <li>2. <b>Covetous</b></li> <li>3. <b>Proud</b></li> <li>4. <b>Boasters</b></li> <li>5. <b>Blasphemers</b></li> <li>6. <b>Disobedient to parents</b></li> <li>7. <b>Unthankful</b></li> <li>8. <b>Unholy</b></li> <li>9. <b>Without natural affection</b></li> <li>10. <b>Truce breaker</b></li> <li>11. <b>False accuser</b></li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12. <b>Incontinent</b></li> <li>13. <b>Fierce</b></li> <li>14. <b>Despisers of those that are good</b></li> <li>15. <b>Traitor</b></li> <li>16. <b>Heady</b></li> <li>17. <b>High-minded</b></li> <li>18. <b>Lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God</b></li> <li>19. <b>Having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof</b></li> </ol> |
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NOVEMBER

- Food Drive for Needy Families - Mission Dept.
- 28th > Thanksgiving

### DECEMBER

- 17th > Sothern District Christmas Program
- 31st > Watch Night Service

Find more information on [www.cogainc.org](http://www.cogainc.org)



## A LITTLE SOMETHING TO LAUGH ABOUT

- "Thanksgiving: The one time of year where it's socially acceptable to eat until you can't move."
- "Thanksgiving calories don't count, right? Asking for a friend."
- "November: A month that reminds us to count our blessings... and our carbs!"
- "November is the month when my diet says 'leafy greens' but my heart says 'pumpkin pie.'"
- "November: The month I practice gratitude for the couch and my favorite blanket."
- "Why did the turkey join the band? Because it had the drumsticks!"

