

Weekly Word

Readings for the week of Oct. 9/22:

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm 100

Philippians 4:4-9

John 6:25-35

In Canada, we will observe Thanksgiving this week. For some, that will mean quality time spent with family/friends, and maybe a special meal. For others, it will mean a time of loneliness and depression.

However, when we turn our attention to Jesus, it can be a joyous time for us all. Amidst the challenges of life, we can take comfort in knowing that Philippians 4:6-7 is truth for which, we can all be thankful.

Those verses say, "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

In good times and in bad, it is always true that our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him with anything that is on our hearts. He is interested in hearing about our victories, but He cares about our trials, as well.

We can be thankful that we don't have to carry life's burdens alone. Once we have made our requests known to God, we can be thankful because we know and trust that He hears us and will answer our prayers. Perhaps not in our preferred timing, or in the way we want, but He gives us the solution to our concerns that is best for us.

We are given an example of God's faithfulness when we read Deuteronomy 26:6-9, which says, *"When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey."*

As Psalm 100: 4-5 says, *"Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations."*