



Dekle Dispatch

Autumn 2020

*Happy
Thanksgiving*
In everything give thanks
1 Thessalonians 5:18

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In a year when everything seems so mixed up, the challenge of 1 Thess. 5:18 really holds true. We know God is in control, therefore, we have much to be thankful for even when things all around are confusing. Our troubles are very light compared to what others have suffered in life. Reflecting on all the hardships Paul endured in his life, yet he could write, "In everything give thanks."

We are thankful we have not contracted Covid-19. While we are not able to do many things we normally would have done, this has allowed us time to do other things. We have been very busy the past few months. Recently when preparing lessons on Ecclesiastes, I was thinking about how much time I have to spend studying for these lessons every week. Then the Lord reminded me, one of my spiritual gifts is teaching. I should be thankful for the opportunity to exercise that gift and hopefully encourage someone along the way.

We also had more time during the past few months to attend to doctor appointments. That is why people retire isn't it? (So you have free time to go to all your doctor appointments.) After our regular annual physicals we ended up going through physical therapy a couple times a week. For Di the Vertigo she was dealing with prompted her to see a ear specialist who sent her to an ENT specialist, who in turn sent her to specialized therapy for what he thought would help. Eventually, they determined she did not have normal vertigo but labeled her condition as VOR (vestibular ocular reflex). She made great improvement during the therapy sessions but still has some issues of dizziness. Some days she has no problems at all, for which we are very thankful, and other days are not quite so good. However, she is doing much better now than a few months ago. Sewing, reading, TV and traveling on curvy roads can be challenging. Moderation is the key.



Restrictions during the pandemic have kept us pretty close to home. The RV got to go a mile up the road to the state part with a group from the church for a few days. Otherwise it has been idle all summer. Thankfully, we had more time to do projects on the RV and around the house that needed to be done.

With extra free time I was able to work on our web site that has been neglected for a long time. The Lord was gracious to help me learn how to do things I had forgotten or never learned how to do. I was able to update the pages and upload a lot of data. Now there are up to date pictures of project both Di and I have done. I was also able to upload my dissertation, "Equipping Teachers to Spiritually Nurture Children from a Biblical Perspective". I don't know if it will be of any interest but it is up on line now. I have been putting our newsletters up on line and will continue to do that if anyone wants to read them. If you are curious the link is: <http://www.turning411.com>

In October my computer crashed. Windows completely died and I had to reload it on the computer. As a result everything was lost, gone, non-existent. Fortunately it was backed up with Carbonite. It took a full week (24 hours a day) to get everything back on my computer. Thank you Lord for Carbonite. But when I went to my Email all my addresses were gone including yours. No more than getting things pretty well up and running and I was hacked. If you get an email from me asking for your help because I'm out of town—delete it! Tim was very patient helping but the conclusion was the hard drive was bad so I had to get a new computer. Every thing is up and running well now. We did get to talk with many friends that called after getting bad emails—another thing to be thankful for. Technology is great when it works and when it doesn't we can be thankful for those who understand it and can fix it.

Beautiful Iris have been blooming. We are blessed to have Iris that bloom in Spring and Fall. A week ago the yard was cleared of leaves and today is filled again. A reminder that winter is coming. The consistency of seasons is a good

reminder of how consistent God remains.

During the flux of things during this pandemic we can be assured God never changes. He is sovereign! Whether things go as we expect in

elections or not God is in control. Turmoil may be existent in our society but God still is faithful and does not change. I think our flowers got mixed up—I saw some Crocus trying to pop up yesterday. But God never gets mixed up. He always has our best in mind. The challenge is for us to walk with Him and enjoy all He has in store for our future.

Let me conclude with our best wishes for you and your family during the upcoming holiday season. Things may be a little different but we still have so much to be thankful for. May you have a very blessed Christmas as you reflect on the significance of what God did for us in sending Jesus to be our Savior. What an awesome gift! "The Father sent His Son to be the Savior of the world." (1 John 4:14) Thank you Jesus for giving us eternal life.

