

## After Sending You Out ...

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After sending you - my companions in Christ with a word of benediction (1 Thessalonians 5:23) on Sunday morning, I wish you well – your body, mind and soul, kept blameless at the coming of the Lord! I also give thanks to God wholeheartedly for the opportunity to serve God and you – His precious flock as a pastor.

May God richly bless you! I would like to celebrate with you this Thanksgiving season in a prayer. Perhaps the word of prayer herewith attached be heard to someone around you at a meal on Thanksgiving Day or those who may be away from you through this social media!



It is always right, O God, to praise you and to bless your name.  
Even if the harvest fail, even when economies falter,  
still you are our God; still you bless us richly.  
Help us to see your active hand in bounty or in scarcity, in pain as well as pleasure.  
When we fail to see you at work we fall into the sin of ingratitude,  
or even suppose that all that we have is the work of our own hands –  
the result of our own intelligence and industry.  
Forgive us, and save us from an existence so self-centered.  
Set us free from greedy and grasping hearts.

By your generosity to us, teach us to be generous to others,  
and thus to give evidence to you that we are indeed your thankful people.  
This we pray through Jesus Christ, your most gracious and enduring gift to us,  
to whom be everlasting praise. Amen.

(From *This Day* by Lawrence Hull Stookey)