

# Thanks-Living Day

**Psalm 100:4**

**Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with Praise!**

As I catch the whiff of the pumpkin pie and chop celery in the kitchen, I'm acutely aware that his presence is everywhere and NOWHERE ! He's MIA, missing in action and so much action going on this Thanksgiving week!

The traditional early morning hike together to work up an appetite, family gathered around a puzzle table, cooking in the kitchen together, traditions now eclipsed by his absence. His favorite dish untasted, an empty chair, scoldings at taking a piece off the turkey early and "yes you have to change out of your pajamas for dinner...!"

Our Thanksgiving Psalm was always read at the table "Psalm 100.. "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with joy." In Jerusalem the gates were entered for Gods people to bring their pure white lamb to the priest to sacrifice. Did they love that lamb, did they raise it from a bottle, did they seek it out as the lamb 'without a blemish' as required. The Old Testament often refers to thanksgiving as being a sacrifice, a sacrifice is something that costs us!

If its your 1st Thanksgiving without your lamb this exercise may be too tough. In the midst of your child's absence, think and thank for a memory you've had with your precious lamb. This practice takes effort, but our kids would want us to practice Thanks-Living for them on this thanksgiving. They don't want us moaning a dirge when they are celebrating their new life in heaven. So, mom set their picture on the table, light a candle, put 3 corn kernels that represent good memories and put aside the dirge for at least for Thanksgiving Day.

Heavenly Hope:

Ps 107:21,22 "...Oh that men would praise the Lord and for his wonderful works to the CHILDREN of men! And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving and declare His works with rejoicing."

***Can you think of any wonderful works the Lord showed your child before their passing?***

