WELCOME TO THE MANAGER'S DESK, I'M MIKE CORNELL.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING. I'VE GOT TWO ARTICLES ABOUT THANKSGIVING TO SHARE TODAY. THE FIRST SERIOUS. THE LATTER ON THE LIGHTER SIDE.

Foundations for Thanksgiving

Have you looked forward to Thanksgiving? Is it because you have a four day weekend? Perhaps you are visiting family. Or maybe you are stuck away from family and friends. Do you feel a little blue because you are missing out on that family reunion?

Want a minute! What is Thanksgiving all about anyway? Do you remember studying about the first Thanksgiving? The Pilgrims gathered for three days of feasting, prayer, and singing. They wanted to thank God for the good corn harvest. That was in 1621.

The practice caught on. George Washington declared November 26, 1789 as a day of thanks to God. Abraham Lincoln set aside the last Thursday in November, 1863 as a day of "thanksgiving and praise" to God. Finally, in 1941, Congress ruled that the fourth Thursday in November would be a legal holiday, Thanksgiving Day.

You see, Thanksgiving Day is a day set aside to thank God for His goodness to us as individuals and as a nation. Think about it. Why is this nation better off than so many others? Why are our farms generally more productive? Why is our scientific enterprise generally more fruitful? Even with all its weaknesses, why is our economy generally stronger? Why? Because God has been Good to us. As the Bible says, "Every good gift... is from above and cometh down from the Father" (James 1:17). So this Thanksgiving, "Praise the Lord, . . For His loving kindness is great toward us" (Psalm 117).

THANKSGIVING WEATHER

Turkeys will thaw in the morning, then warm in the oven to an afternoon high near 190F. The kitchen will turn hot and humid, and if you bother the cook, be ready for a severe squall or cold shoulder.

During the late afternoon and evening, the cold front of a knife will slice through the turkey, causing an accumulation of one to two inches on plates. Mashed potatoes will drift across one side while cranberry sauce creates slippery spots on the other. Please pass the gravy.

A weight watch and indigestion warning have been issued for the entire area, with increased stuffiness around the beltway. During the evening, the turkey will diminish and taper off to leftovers, dropping to a low of 34F in the refrigerator.

Looking ahead to Friday and Saturday, high pressure to eat sandwiches will be established. Flurries of leftovers can be expected both days with a 50 percent chance of scattered soup late in the day. We expect a warming trend where soup develops. By early next week, eating pressure will be low as the only wish left will be the bone.

MAY YOUR DAY TODAY TRULY BE A DAY OF GIVING THANKS.

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THANK YOU FOR JOINING ME FOR THE MANAGER'S DESK. I'M MIKE CORNELL.