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

Foundations for Thanksgiving by Dr. Dennis J. Prutow

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).

MAY EVERY DAY BE A DAY OF THANKS GIVING!

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