Community Christian Church 11/29/26 Communion Message

Prepared by: Sam French

Kids

I am grateful for the joy I get from parenting. I have 3 boys: Ted, 6, Pat his twin, and Fred (5).

The thing I enjoy most is playing video games together, lately *Fortnight*. Let me tell you, we *all love it*, well, except Fred is still transitioning from *Roblox*.

Other than God, nothing in this world is *all good*. A downside of *Fortnight* is that the kids love it *too* much. They want to negotiate with me for additional time, *"Well, if we get off games 5 minutes early, does that mean we get more TV? If we delay game time by x minutes will it get made up? How many minutes do I get to play games tonight?"*

While I appreciate their suggestions and questions, once it starts to turn into a negotiation I remind them that it's not a good idea to negotiate with their Dad. The reasons are:

1. I'm already acting in their best interests, I love them!
2. I have all the leverage in an adversarial negotiation with my 6 year old kid

From Matthew 7:9-11

*Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? **10** Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? **11** If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, [p]how much more will your Father who is in heaven [q]give good things to those who ask him!*

For Adults

I realize that this is similar to my relationship with God. Often I find myself doing "the right thing" and expecting good outcomes. Generally, that's true, but it's not a negotiation with God, we should be thankful for what we receive and for what we don't.

From Romans 11:33-36:

33 *Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! [h]How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!*

34 *[i]"For who has known the mind of the Lord,*

or who has been his counselor?"

35 *[j]"Or who has given a gift to him*

that he might be repaid?"

36 *For [k]from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.*

Giving Thanks

While we can't negotiate with God, we should feel secure in our relationship as his children. He will always be there for us.

As we give thanks this Thanksgiving, it's important to remember that we should give thanks for the eternal relationship we have with God that exists regardless of circumstance.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-19

16 *[a]Rejoice always,* ***17*** *pray [b]without ceasing,* ***18*** *[c]give thanks in all circumstances; for [d]this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.* ***19***

Communion

We celebrate this relationship with God by taking communion with Jesus, who is God, and died on the cross for our sins.

1 Corinthians 11:23–26

23 *For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread,*

24 *and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for[a] you. Do this in remembrance of me."[b]*

25 *In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."*

[26] For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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<Invite Servers up - While I lead us in a prayer>

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Dear Lord Jesus, we pray thanks this Thanksgiving for the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. We pray thanks for the relationship he has invited us into. Regardless of circumstances, we know you're there for us Jesus, and for that, we will rejoice always. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen!