

Greetings FCN Family,

The Season of giving "Thanks" is here...
Why just a season?

Psalm 28:7 –**The LORD is my strength and my shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart exults, And with my song I shall thank Him.**

Thanksgiving Day is a time to reflect and be thankful for all that God has given us. We mostly consider Thanksgiving Day to be something that is celebrated only in the United States of America. Did you know other countries celebrate similar holidays and feasts? Here are some examples:

- *India celebrates harvest in various regions*
- *Canada celebrates thanksgiving in October*
- *The Jewish feast of Sukkot is observed during the harvest*
- *Ancient Egyptians had a feast in honor of Min, the god of harvest and fertility*
- *Lamas Day, was celebrated in the British Isles. On this day people would take a loaf of bread to church. The loaf was baked from the first harvest.*
- *Harvest Festival is celebrated in the UK and as time goes on many of the American traditions and foods are added to celebration dinners.*
- *Victory and Homeland Thanksgiving Day is celebrated in Croatia on August 5th. But rather than a thanksgiving holiday it is really a memorial to the day that the city of Knin was seized by the Croatian Army during the War of Independence.*
- *Other countries such as Germany, Brazil, Ghana, Nigeria and Korea also have thanksgiving and/or harvest festivals*

As you can see from the above excerpt, for the most part, everyone has a season of thanks. Our season of thanks as a country is that brief glimpse of fall colors, pilgrims and then topped off with an amazing Turkey dinner with all the fixin's.

As God's children, our thankfulness obviously should not be set aside to just one season. Our thankfulness needs to overflow daily to our God and King. In Psalm 69:30, the psalmist writes "*praise the name of God with song, and shall magnify Him with thanksgiving.*" Let us not only be thankful one day a year but celebrate the greatness of our God with thanks every day!

Giving God Thanks for you,
—PD

