November 2026

Dear CWR/PTM Friend and Partner,

A Christ-follower had lived a life of service, ministering to church congregations and then, after retiring from being a pastor he and his wife decided to move to one of the most impoverished places on earth and helped dig wells for fresh drinking water.

As they lived and worked in Bangladesh news of this elderly couple's extraordinary self-sacrifice became known. Their fame motivated visitors who came from afar, wanting to follow their example of providing water to others in the name of Jesus. However, this couple soon realized many of these visitors were actually looking to escape their own lives of responsibility and hard work, dreaming of and hoping for an idealized simple life.

After talking with them and asking them about their lives – the couple's advice for most of the visitors was simple – it went something like this: *If you want to follow Jesus Christ go home and be a good husband/wife/parent. Serve Jesus as an exemplary employee. If you are an employer, serve your employees in the best way you can. Be thankful for your friends and family, and do all you can to help, comfort and serve them – that is your best service to God.* ***Serve God where you are****, and be thankful for the life he has given you, rather than trying to run away from it.*

In North America, Canadians observe a day of Thanksgiving in October while in the United States we observe Thanksgiving toward the end of November. As we do, we are wise if we reflect and realize that <u>every day is thanksgiving</u>. ***By God's grace, we can serve him wherever we are, whenever we can***.

- We thank God for giving us physical, mortal life, and for his gift of immortal, eternal life.
- We thank God for the many ways in which he allows us to serve others, in his name.
- We thank God for all the gifts he has lavished on us, seen and unseen, realized and unrealized.
- We thank God that ultimately every good and perfect gift comes from Him.
- We thank God that every gift we have is derived – it comes from another source, and when that source is human, we trace it back to God.
- We thank God that thanksgiving is not isolated to only one day on the calendar, but ***by his grace he enables us to serve others, in his name, wherever we are, whenever we can!***
- We can thank God by following the teaching embedded in the introductory comments of Paul as he addresses his first letter to the Corinthians:

To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, ***together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ – their Lord and ours: Grace and peace to you*** *from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.* ***I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus*** (1 Corinthians 1:2-4, my emphasis).

<u>Ponder these three points of emphasis:</u>

1) *all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ… their Lord and ours.*

As we follow our Lord Jesus Christ:

- We are thankful that we are united, by God's grace, through Jesus, with ALL THOSE EVERYWHERE who follow Jesus, and we are thankful there are Christ-followers everywhere. In Christ, we give thanks ***we can serve others wherever we are!***
- We are thankful that God is bigger than us – *we are thankful God is their Lord and ours!*

The first recipients of this letter were Christians living in the city of Corinth, but as we read Paul's word originally sent to them, we are not reading someone else's mail. This letter was not just for them, but for hundreds of millions after them, through the ages – including you and me!

2) *Grace and peace to you…*

What more can we be thankful for? How great and supreme and surpassing all else is the grace and peace of God!? ***Grace and peace is the gospel of Jesus Christ –*** grace, peace, love and mercy is what Jesus' message, the gospel, is all about. The grace and peace Jesus lives in us propels, enables and empowers us that we might ***serve others wherever we are.***

3) *I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus.*

We join with Paul, individually with those we know personally, who have embraced the grace of God, in Christ, and we join with God corporately, for all those around the world… right now… many of whom are fellow Friends and Partners of Plain Truth Ministries… for the grace they have been given in Christ Jesus. **Because of his grace we come together to serve others**.

Later in this first chapter he says:

I appeal to you brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with each other in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you might be perfectly united in mind and thought. What I mean is this: One of you says "I follow Paul"; another "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? (1 Corinthians 1:10-12).

My friends, verses 10-12 in the first chapter of 1 Corinthians, addressing the unity we have in Christ, by his grace, is yet another reason to be thankful in this world of incredible division, fear and hatred! Being at peace in and with God is one of his wonderful gifts!

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male or female, for ***you are all one in Christ Jesus*** (Galatians 3:28, my emphasis).

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another (John 13:35).

By the love you have for one another, which in fact must be the very love of God which he first gave us …*we love because he first loved us* (1 John 4:19).

So, by the love of God that dwells in us through our risen Lord, everyone will know we are his disciples and followers. Not by our political or religious affiliations. Not by how many arguments we have won (or think we have won, while in fact we were making enemies and casting a huge shadow on our identity as a Christian). By our love. By our unity.

He does not suggest we become yellow pencils. We can be, in Christ, united though we are diverse. Folks who are members of a particular denomination can be, and will be, by the grace of God, united with folks who are Christ followers but are not church members or attendees. If we love one another, if Christ lives in us, then we can vote Democrat, Republican or not at all, and be united with one another. We can be, and are, of many different cultures and races, yet, be one in Christ Jesus our Lord.

In his 1997 book, *Sources of Strength*, former president Jimmy Carter said, "When we wake up in the morning, when we meet a friend, when someone gives us a hand, when one of our children or grandchildren expresses love, when we go to a job that is gratifying, when an unanticipated opportunity arises, when we see a beautiful sky, or when we have any kind of exciting experience – all of these are opportunities to give God the credit and acknowledge God's greatness."

Give thanks, my Friends and fellow Partners, with a grateful heart. Give thanks to God for his love, goodness, grace and mercy. Give thanks God enables us to serve others in his name wherever we are!

Giving thanks with you, in Christ,

Greg Albrecht
President, *Plain Truth Ministries*

CWR/PTM Prayer Requests & Comments – November 2026

These prayer requests are a representative sampling of so many others we receive and pray for. We invite you to join us in praying for these and others that space does not permit us to include here. Thanks for being a CWR/PTM Prayer Partner—*for carrying each other's burdens* (Galatians 6:2).

Please pray for my son, my daughter and me. We all have Covid. Thanks so much for all you do.—Florida

Please pray for my sister in Ohio who was recently diagnosed with lung cancer.—Texas

I've been diagnosed with glaucoma and I am allergic to the eye drops my doctor prescribed. Please pray that I can take some new eye drops without side effects, and pray that I don't lose my vision.—Maryland

I'm still suffering with lots of pain, and I really appreciate all your prayers. I'm so happy to be a part of CWR/PTM, and I pray this ministry continues to reach people all around the world.—Georgia

Thank you for the latest magazines and letters, and thank you for the relationship. May God continue to bless us all in growing faithfully in Jesus Christ.—Saskatchewan, Canada

Please pray for my friend who has lung cancer and is starting radiation treatments.—Michigan

Please pray for the healing of my left knee. I'm suffering with a lot of pain from the bone rubbing on bone. Thank you for your prayers.—Minnesota

Please pray for my struggles with severe health and financial problems and acute depression. Pray that God will deliver me from all of this. I pray God will bless everyone at CWR/PTM.—Tennessee

Please pray for a close family member who has terminal Stage 4 cancer.—Canada

Please pray for the Lord to increase my wisdom to always do what is right.—Texas

I am privileged to be part of such an awesome work of Jesus Christ. So I give freely to support this work. I pray God will help you to continue to share Christ-centered messages from the Bible.—Illinois

Please pray for all wars to stop, and pray for all who suffer with hunger around the world.—Maine

Pray for inner peace from extreme anxiety and ADHD which affects every part of my life. I am currently unemployed so please also pray about that.—New York

Please pray for God to heal me. Thank you for all the love, grace and Christ-centered messages in your magazines, letters and books.—California

Please pray for me as I suffer episodes of dementia, balance and issues related to diabetes. Please pray for desperately needed rain in so many places. Thank you in advance for your prayers.—Utah

Please pray for my friend who is in hospice care now. His heart is failing.—Michigan

Our Father in Heaven: We know you love each of these individuals, and we thank you in advance for the answers you will provide, out of your love, for each request. With thanksgiving for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, our suffering servant who heals us, in whose name we pray—Amen.