

HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM GOMIX CHRISTIAN RADIO!

PathPointe

November 2025

Address Service Requested
PO Box 1895 • Goldsboro NC 27533

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage Paid
Columbia, SC
Permit No. 185

Laminates • Wood • Area Rugs • Vinyl • Ceramic • LVP • LVT
"Check out our stocked warehouse for extra specials."

Southland

FLOORING & DESIGN

40 Years Experience - Family Owned & Operated

Upload A Picture Of Your Space And See Our Products In Your Room At
www.southlandflooringdesign.com

John 3:16
201 E. New Bern Rd.
Hwy 70 E.
Kinston, NC 28504



"Find us on Facebook
@ floorstore 252"

Kendall & Rhoda Rikard
(252) 523-9010
Fax (252) 523-1678
southlandflooring@hotmail.com

VENTURE BUSINESS SYSTEMS



For Home or Business
Repair of Copiers,
Fax Machines, and Printers.
Sales • Service • Supplies

PO Box 1742
Goldsboro, NC, 27533

Call or Text Today!
Al Strickland
1 (919) 759-0121

Windows, Doors, Parts, Skirting, A/C & Heating, and More!

F O R B E S

MOBILE HOME SUPPLY, INC.

*If we don't have what you
need, we'll order it!*

1716 Highway 11-55
Kinston, NC 28504

252-527-2166
Mon-Fri 7-5, Sat 8-12

PREMIER BUILDERS



ROOFING SPECIALISTS



- Residential/Commercial
- New Roofs/Flat Roofs
- Metal Roofs/Shingles
- Warranty On All Labor

- Accepts All Major Credit Cards
- Certified Hydro-Stop Application
- Roofing Repairs
- Insurance Claims



Fully Insured
Free Estimates

910-533-3479



[www.pproofingspecialist.com](http://www.proofingspecialist.com)



Sasser
GOLF CARS, INC.

Monday - Friday 8:30 - 5:30
Saturday 8:30 - 3:00
(919) 734-1045
2530 Highway 70 West
Goldsboro, NC 27530
www.sassergolfcarsinc.com



DOWN
HOME
REALTY AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC

Travis Worthington

Personalized
Home Buying And
Selling For
Each Client!

919-429-2807

trustingtravis@gmail.com

1402 E. Ash St., Goldsboro, NC

www.HomesInGoldsboro.net



Grant's Garage

601 East Washington St.
LaGrange, NC 28551
252-566-3323



Rollback & Wrecker Service,
Tires, Tune-ups & More!



✓ PRICE
✓ QUALITY
✓ SERVICE





contents

PathPointe Magazine

Volume 26, Issue 11

November 2025

- Page 2 Thanksgiving Leftovers
Dr. T. D. Worthington
- Page 6 Radio Bits
Your Christian Superstations!
- Page 8 Thankful for the Struggles
Dr. Sherry Worthington
- Page 10 Stuck in the Past
Dr. Glenn Mills
- Page 12 AfterGlow
Mrs. Connie Peters

President and Publisher: Dr. T. D. Worthington
Editor: Tiffany W. Johnson
Advertising Director: Jeremy Worthington
Contributors: Glenn Mills, Tiffany Johnson,
Connie Peters, and Sherry Worthington
PathPointe Magazine
PO Box 1895
Goldsboro, NC 27533-1895

PathPointe Magazine

© 2025 Pathway Ministries Group. All Rights Reserved. Contents may not be reproduced without permission. Published monthly by Pathway Ministries Group, a nonprofit organization recognized for tax-deductible giving by the Federal government. *Printed in the USA.* All Scripture references are from the King James Version unless otherwise noted.

POSTMASTER: Please send address corrections to: Pathway Ministries Group, PO Box 1895, Goldsboro, NC 27533-1895.

PathPointe Magazine is written for the Faith Partners, Business Underwriters, and friends of Pathway Ministries Group.

Subscriptions: PathPointe is provided free of charge to interested parties within the USA, as our Lord provides. All other subscriptions are \$30.00 per year.

Address Changes: Please either send us a photocopy of your mailing label with your partner number or use the provided insert to carefully print your name, new address, and partner number and send it to: Pathway Ministries Group, Subscription Services, PO Box 1895, Goldsboro, NC 27533-1895. Please allow 6-8 weeks for address change information to be activated.

Back Issues: A limited quantity of back issues are available. If needed by churches, businesses, or other groups, bulk quantity information will be available upon request.

Reprints: Call 252-747-8887 for reprint information and reproduction rights for select articles.

Letters And Press Releases: There are four ways to send us material. 1. Fax to 866-537-8189. 2. By courier to 1302 South George Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530. 3. Through the mail. 4. Through our web site at GoMixRadio.org. These are in order of preference. Unsolicited manuscripts cannot be returned.

Advertising Policy: Advertising published in PathPointe Magazine is accepted on the premise that the merchandise and services offered are accurately described and willingly available as indicated herein. PathPointe Magazine does not necessarily endorse the products, services, views, claims, and opinions of its advertisers or contributors. Submitted copy that is deceptive or misleading will never be knowingly accepted. PathPointe Magazine reserves the right to reject any copy, for any reason.



One of the wonderful things about the celebration of Thanksgiving is all the food! I am sure that at some point in your life, you gathered with family or friends and enjoyed a Holiday feast. Sherry is a great cook, and now the kids often bring their own dishes, so we have an authentic buffet. The food is always so great on Thanksgiving Day, but some of it seems to be even better after Thanksgiving! So, on Friday, we might have turkey sandwiches. I like turkey sandwiches on Friday. They are not bad on Saturday, but by Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, my taste for Thanksgiving leftovers begins to wear a bit thin. I am now craving a pizza. Enough with the leftovers! Sometimes that happens in the Christian life, also. I wonder if our Lord gets tired of thanksgiving leftovers?

“(A Psalm of David.) I will praise thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.”

Psalms 138:1

We could call this a heartfelt thanksgiving. This is more than one day a year. God calls His people to live lives of constant thankfulness. He doesn't want our leftovers. He should not have to accept a mere acknowledgement that the season for Thanksgiving is upon us, and then we must quickly transition to Christmas! No, as important as the Christmas season is, we must never forsake the spirit of Thanksgiving. I know that commercially, Thanksgiving is just a small bump in the road between Halloween and Christmas, but it shouldn't be that way for us.

We are called, as Christians, to be different. We are to be a people characterized by wholehearted thankfulness. All of our days should be days of Thanksgiving. As you take a look at **Psalm 138**, you will find that this Psalm breaks into three sections. Let's look at what the Psalmist is saying.

The Expression Wholehearted Thanksgiving.

“I will praise thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee. I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name. In the day when I cried thou answeredst me, and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul.”

Psalm 138:1-3

What is thankfulness? True thankfulness is an expression of godliness. True thankfulness acknowledges that it is God, and not we ourselves, who are the source of our blessings. I submit to you that only a godly man or woman is truly thankful. Thankfulness is a spiritual virtue activated in us by God Himself. A man without Christ really does not know how to be grateful. Oh, he can be thankful for his family or for his health, like anyone else. But, since he doesn't understand the source of it all, he falls short of real Thanksgiving.

For instance, in **Psalm 97:12** we find this admonition: *“Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!”* So, who is truly qualified to give thanks? It is the righteous. As we recognize that it is only by God's steadfast love and faithfulness that we have received our blessings, we begin to understand how bankrupt we are in ourselves. Every good and perfect gift comes from God, and a genuine, heartfelt thanksgiving readily acknowledges that.

The Psalmist here says that he acknowledges his thankfulness *“before the gods.”* What does that mean? In David's time, the gods spoken of were the false idols of the pagan nations around Israel. These competed for the attention of Israel and the people of the true God. They promised various blessings through their teachings. But their promises were empty, as these were the false gods of those who did not follow our Lord.

These things were false in David's day, and they are false in our day as well. You see, we have our own Baals and Molechs all about us that

call for our attention. These false gods that would seek the affection of the Church also encompass us. We see all around us. They would divert us from the one true God. These are the pagan philosophies and teachings of our day that promise us rewards and blessings if we follow them. That brings us to our second point:

The Experience of Wholehearted Thankfulness.

“In the day when I cried thou answeredst me, and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul. All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O LORD, when they hear the words of thy mouth. Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the LORD: for great is the glory of the LORD. Though the LORD be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off.”

Psalm 138:3-6

David says that he had called on the true God and was honored to sing praises to the Lord. Because of his knowledge of the Lord, David said he had observed four things. He had learned that God always meets our needs (**Verse 3**), communicates with His children (**Verse 4**), has great glory (**Verse 5**), and regards the lowly (**Verse 6**).

And finally, we notice:

The Endurance of Wholehearted Thankfulness.

“Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me: thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me. The LORD will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.”

Psalm 138:7-8





It's one thing to speak of a heartfelt thanksgiving when we sense that our souls have been strengthened and things seem to be going well. However, David says here, *"though I walk in the midst of trouble..."* A heartfelt thankfulness endures in the bad times as well as the good. This is not some fair-weather friend. Even in the midst of trouble, true Thanksgiving endures. Why? Because our thankfulness is not based upon our outward circumstances!

I know that it is not always easy to be thankful on the bad days. You may get up late because the alarm doesn't go off. You don't have time to pray or eat breakfast. On the way out of the house, you trip over the dog and smack your toe on the door jam. You get to work late, argue with the boss, and come home at the end of the workday only to find you have

forgotten it is your anniversary. Not a good day!

Now, David's trouble was more severe than losing your car keys. David, the king of Israel, had been exiled from his throne, and people were trying to kill him! One of those people who was trying to kill him was his own son. Yet it is in the midst of this kind of trouble, David says, I give thanks with my whole heart! How could he do that? Because he knew that thankfulness to God does not depend on outward circumstances or success.

Conclusion: God calls on His children to have a deep, heartfelt spirit of Thanksgiving. We serve the same God as David. God calls us to be a people who rest in His steadfast love and don't waver in times of difficulty. Sometimes we think it's easy to be thankful when everything is "going right." But

when things don't go the way we want them to, then being grateful becomes a little more difficult. But God's love is steadfast for us as it was for David, and though we may walk in the midst of trouble, God's abiding love and mighty hand are strong to deliver us. The Lord will fulfill His purposes for us, and He will not forsake us.

Thanksgiving is not just a date on the calendar; it is an expression of our hearts. Rather than giving God a few Thanksgiving leftovers, may we learn to thank God from our hearts for His many blessings upon our lives. May we all enjoy a heartfelt Thanksgiving this year.



Dr. Worthington has been in the ministry nearly fifty years and serves as President of Pathway Ministries and Christian Bible College.

SANDPIPER SEAFOOD

Hours
 Wed - Thur 3:00 - 9:00
 Fri - Sat 3:00 - 9:30
 Sun 11:00 - 8:30
 Closed Mon & Tue

Seafood, Steak, or Chicken made just the way you like it!

**Seafood Varieties Include
 Flounder, Oysters, Scallops, & Deviled Crab!**

All seafood is broiled, steamed, or fried.

**Conveniently located on Highway 70
 East of LaGrange!**

252-566-4067

Special Discounts apply for Senior Citizens!

Donald A. Ribeiro, MD David Baker, MD
 Sarah Davis, FNP-C
 Meredith Harper, FNP-C

Hookerton Family Practice
Quality Health Care

516 S. William Hooker Dr.
 Hookerton, N.C. 28538

Phone 252-747-2089
 Fax 252-747-2734

Walk-ins Welcome
Appointment Necessary

Primary And Urgent Care For The
 Family With No Appointment Necessary.

This Institution Is An Equal Opportunity Provider And Employer.

1059 Rosewood Road
 Goldsboro, N.C. 27530

ROYCE WALTERS
 Tax Consultant
 Accounting & Bookkeeping Services
 Notary Public

Phone: (919) 735-9874
 Fax: (919) 735-0152
 Pager: (919) 731-9015

DRUG CARE PHARMACY
"Giving You The Knowledge To Stay Healthy"

252-445-3414
 132 Whitfield Street
 Enfield, NC 27823

Personal Consultation With Each
 Customer Prescription

Delivery Services Available

Hair & Nail Trendy
 SALON

HAIRCUTS • COLOR • HI-LITES • PERMS • WAXING
 PEDICURES • MANICURES • GEL NAILS

1017 N Berkeley Blvd.
 Goldsboro, NC 27534
 In The Delmus Hardware
 Shopping Center!

Linda - 919.221.3145

Radio**bits**

88.1, 88.3, 88.7, 89.1, 90.1, 90.5, 90.9, 91.1, 91.3, 92.9, & 1240AM

November, 2025
www.gomixradio.org
Your Christian SuperStations!



Thanksgiving

Some of the richest farmland in the country is right here in Eastern North Carolina. Each fall, we look forward to seeing the harvest. Over the past few weeks, we have watched farmers harvesting their corn, soybeans, peanuts, and cotton. Every farmer has been busy *“bringing in the sheaves,”* so to speak.

To harvest crops is to bring them in, out of the cold and storms. Harvesting is a sheltering, a keeping after growing is done, and a celebration at year’s end. This Thanksgiving, as we are giving thanks for a bountiful yield, as in the days of old, we pause to ask ourselves:

What, in our lives, by divine grace, has been safely gathered in and safely sheltered in the arms of God?

The ability to give thanks with a joyful heart starts with recognizing God as the source of all good things and that God is always faithful to his children. Remembering what God has done, made possible, or mercifully prevented doesn’t just give us a sense of self-satisfied gratitude; it makes us eternally thankful. We are to remember that God is the one who is faithful and provides, not us. Giving thanks is a vital way to correct our own egos. It helps us remember who is in charge. Giving thanks reminds us that God is the Master and we are only stewards.

Few farmers hoard their harvest. They must share their crops so that both they and their neighbors can be blessed. As Christians, we can’t cling to what isn’t ours from the start. And if everything we have

truly belongs to God, how can we not share God’s blessings with those whom God created, loved, and sent Jesus to die for? Paul emphasizes that it is God who enables us to be as generous with others as God has been with us, so that, through our generosity, gratitude to God will increase. A spirit of generosity is essential to Christian discipleship.

Once we accept God’s gracious gift of eternal life, we experience a joy that wells up from within and turns into thankfulness. For Christians, expressing gratitude with joy becomes instinctive, no matter the season.



For Additional Information:
GoMix Radio
PO Box 1895
Goldsboro, NC 27533
call 252-747-8887 or
fax 866-537-8189
www.gomixradio.org
*When Writing, Please Enclose
Your Mailing Address And Partner
Number.*



We have just concluded one of the most successful **Share-A-Thons** we have ever had. You may have noticed that the schedule was a little different this year. We decided that giving our listeners, volunteers, and staff a break between the hours of 1:00 and 4:00 might serve the interests of everyone involved. The net result was that the goal was met in about 148 hours. Last fall, it took nearly 200 hours to achieve the same goal.

It is reassuring to know that we can always count on our **Faith Partners** to lend a hand when facing a monumental goal, assist with a challenging project, or just go above and beyond what's required. Once again, you came through for us.

All of us here at **GoMix** would like to express our gratitude for your partnership. Once again, your efforts played a crucial role in our success. Thank you for going above and beyond. Your faith and sacrifice will not be taken for granted. It is our hope that, in the future, others will follow the example you've set by helping finance the work of Christ through Christian radio.

Thank you not only for being there, but for doing exactly what was needed at the time. You may not get to see the smiles you placed on our faces or the impact you have made on thousands of lives, but know for sure that all you have done is greatly appreciated and will be greatly rewarded. We are blessed and forever grateful!

(252) 439-0840

CARPET DESIGN CENTER

Offering:

- Carpet
- Ceramic Tile
- Stair Runners
- Luxury Vinyl Plank
- Hardwood Flooring
- Custom Area Rugs

3205 S Memorial Drive
Greenville, NC 27834 *Full Service Sales & Installation!*

www.carpetdesigncenteronline.com




PIZZA VILLA
Since 1973
Tuesday Night All You Can Eat Spaghetti Special!
\$6.50
"Dine In Only"
Open: Tuesday thru Saturday 11AM-9PM
Closed Sunday & Monday

1400 West Vernon Avenue, Kinston, NC (252) 527-2260



JacksonandSons.com

When You Need Us - We'll Be There!

Providing Heating And Air Solutions Since 1974.

919-734-9611



From the time I was a little girl, I always wanted to be a mommy. I played with my dolls and took very good care of them. I always had baby girls because at that point in my life, boys were a nuisance. And it goes without saying that even though my babies were not always well-behaved, I was an excellent mommy. My pretend world took me to all kinds of places and into all types of adventures. My imagination evolved as I got older, but I was still the hero in every scenario. I always got the bad guy or saved the lost kitten.

Well, we all grow up and realize the world of pretend is a lot easier than the real deal. Our struggles begin with walking, talking, and being potty-trained. Those things don't sound that serious, but to a child,

they are monumental. Without those skills, the rest of life will elude us. Some children cannot talk or walk, so we need to be very thankful that we are blessed with these gifts. Lord, thank you for giving me a mom and dad who taught me so many things. Not just how to walk and talk, but about life and its principles.

When we enter school, we are taught that letters on a piece of paper make words. It is such a foreign concept. We also learn how to use numbers to add and subtract, and one day we discover that those same letters we used to read can represent numbers. What sense does that make? Without the struggle of learning to read or to add and subtract, the rest of my education would not have been possible. I

have had so many teachers over my lifetime. They were so patient with me. I wasn't someone who learned easily. I studied many hours doing homework and studying for tests. Perhaps that is why I am a decent teacher today. Lord, thank you for the teachers that you put in my life. The first ones were my parents, then the many other people you have put into my path, and most of all, my husband. Without them, I would not be serving as a teacher today.

I have also learned many things from books and other forms of literature. Before I got married, I read about being a good wife. When I became a mother, I read profusely. I read Christian books about raising infants to raising teenagers. As I came across different challenges in teaching, I read about various ways to reach children academically as well as behaviorally. The greatest source of wisdom is found in God's Word. There is no area of life that the Scriptures do not address.

“For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.”

Proverbs 2:6

It is just sad that it has taken me so long to learn some things. Thank you, Lord, for the sacrifices and the struggles of the people who made your written Word possible.

As I travel through the memories of my life, I would be remiss if I did not thank the Lord for the struggles. It took a while, but I have learned that the way we handle the lessons that cross our paths will determine in which direction we grow. Whether we become a strong

oak, a wilted flower, or a briar that hurts those in our paths is totally up to us. Our struggles will make us bitter or better. What choices are we going to make?

I have not always made the right choices, but I have learned quite a bit over my life. My parents always taught me I could do anything I put my mind to. They pushed me to be better than I was. I worked 30 hours a week, went to college full-time, and was active in church. I had to learn how to budget money and time and stay faithful to God. This may not sound important to you, but it prepared me for even bigger challenges I would face down the road.

As life progressed, I learned more and more that the only way I could do anything was if the Lord held my hand and carried me through. Throughout our marriage, there have been times when the cupboards were bare. My husband has always had tremendous faith, and many times, I hung on to his coattail. We trusted God to supply, and He never let us down. We were very frugal; our Lord stretched what we had, and our family never missed a meal. Likewise, in the ministry, there have been lean times. When we started the school and the radio station, we did not know where the money was coming from, but God always provided each step of the way. We never saw miles down the road, but just inch by inch. We have seen God provide through floods and lightning strikes. Thank you, Lord, for the struggles in the lean times that helped us to trust You.

In all of our lives, we experience emotional struggles that test our faith. A loved one is sick, and we aren't sure if they are going to make it. We have a rebellious child who is distant from God, and we don't know how to reach them. People in our lives are hurting, and we can't help them. The circumstances are far beyond our control. I have had many difficult experiences over



the years. Thank you, God, for allowing me to grow through life's experiences.

I have observed many people over the years. Some have become very bitter and angry, while others seem sweet and kind even when they are hurting. Pondering over the different individuals and what makes each of them different, I realize there is one thing that stands out. They have taken the first and second commandments seriously and have grown so much that they put these principles into practice every day.

“Jesus said unto them, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.”
Matthew 26:37-39

These beautiful saints strive to love God more than anything else in their lives, which makes the second commandment fall right into place. They love others more than themselves. So, every decision and action they make is filtered through their love for God and their love for others. They are not selfish because they love others more than themselves.

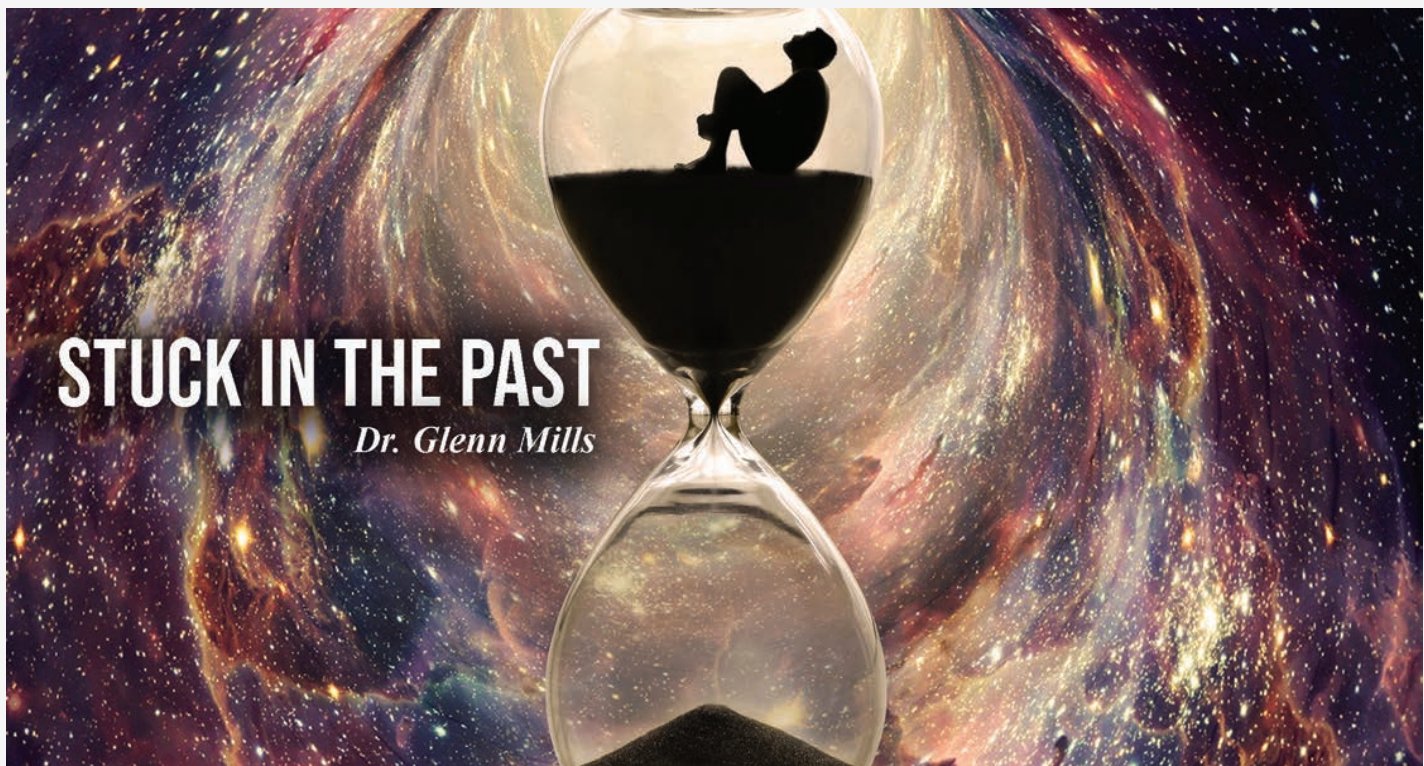
Thank you, Lord, for the people who have shown me by their lives how to handle hardships and struggles. May I never grow bitter or angry because of difficulties. May I grow closer to you with each problem that I face? May my life show your love wherever I go.

I don't want to be a grumpy old person. I want to be someone who lets Jesus shine in their life each day. What type of person do you want to be? It is a choice!

Happy Thanksgiving!



Dr. Worthington has five children and twelve grandchildren. She serves as Principal of Pathway Christian Academy in Goldsboro.



STUCK IN THE PAST

Dr. Glenn Mills

“Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 3:13-14

I cannot tell you the times in my life that I have been hindered by my past failures and mess ups. Whether spiritually, physically, emotionally, financially, or socially. If we’re being honest, we all have some regrets over things we have done or have not done. If there is one thing the devil is great at, it is reminding us of our past shortcomings. Sometimes I get bombarded with the “what ifs” of life. You know, what if I had done this or that, at such and such a time, in such and such place? I might have accomplished something greater with my life! Then there are the “what if I had not” of done certain things, at certain times, under certain circumstances, and with certain people? If allowed, regret can hang over us like a dark cloud, keeping out the joy God so desires for us.

Our past can be the thing that holds us back, or the thing that moves us forward. Thankfully, the Holy Spirit has taught me that regrets are nothing but rewards turned inside out. As a child I strongly regretted touching the electric fence that kept the hogs in, but the reward I quickly gained was the knowledge to never touch that

fence again. Every regret of my life has taught me very valuable lessons that have allowed me to grow wiser and stronger. I don’t know about you, but I have wasted enough time pondering over things I can in no way change. Good or bad, my choices have brought me to where I am today and have made me in part who I am today. The best preachers I have ever heard were those who were open about their life and what they learned from the good times and the bad. That is what makes a testimony so powerful.

My father used to say, “*Son, if you don’t have some regrets, you have never done anything worth talking about.*” Jim Lovell said, “*There are people who make things happen, there are people who watch things happen, and there are people who wonder what happened.*”

What are your regrets, my friend? What pain or disappointments keep coming back to your mind? What wrong decisions are following you around like a shadow? What was it that made you feel like a failure? Our goal should be to look for the rewards that are hidden in our regrets. Believe me when I say, sometimes they are hidden deep.

Kim and I have occasionally run in a 5k race. You can practice for such a race all you want to, but there is nothing quite like running the race with other runners.

While only one can win the first-place prize, everyone in some way wins if they compete. Some people only walk the 5k, but they still win the t-shirt if they finish. Sometimes you may pass another runner and sometimes you get passed; it's all part of the race. I once remember running a 5k with Kim in Atlanta. She told me to go on ahead so I could get a better finishing time. I passed a few runners and felt pretty good about myself. Then suddenly, I was passed by a mother pushing a double stroller—with two kids in it! Talk about bursting your bubble.

Later, as I pondered on the race, the Holy Spirit showed me the physical condition this mother was in; it was evident she ran a lot. Those kids were probably wind-burned from being in that stroller. But then I realized it is the same in the Spirit. The more we study God's Word, pray, worship, and praise Him, the better we run. How good we run our race does not depend on others, only ourselves.

Another thing I admired about this woman was that she did not let her kids keep her from running; she just took them along for the ride. There are all kinds of excuses we could use for not running our spiritual race, or we can face up to our issues and start running.

Another great thing about racing a 5k is the T-shirt! When I see someone with a t-shirt on from a 5k race, I don't ask them their finishing time. I just admire them for running the race. Don't worry about winning the first-place trophy, Jesus already won that over two thousand years ago. Just allow the Holy Spirit to set the pace and keep running towards heaven. If you will listen closely, you just might hear God, Jesus, the angels, the great cloud of witnesses, and our departed loved ones cheering us on!

There are three things I am thinking about when we run. First is the spot we turn around and head back. Second is our finishing point. Third is the amount of time the run took, hoping to make better time with each run. I thank God for the many turn- arounds He has allowed me to have in my walk with Him. My goals are maturing in Christ and making it home to Heaven to join the many others who have run the Christian race before me. The prize is finishing well to the honor and glory of God and Christ.

Any runner will tell you that looking back only slows your motion forward. Although almost all runners will sometimes glance back to see who or what is behind them, they do not focus on that. Jesus even tells us in **Luke 9:62**, *"No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."* The "look" there refers to staying focused upon the past. Our glance back should simply be to remember the lessons of our past, but not to remain there.

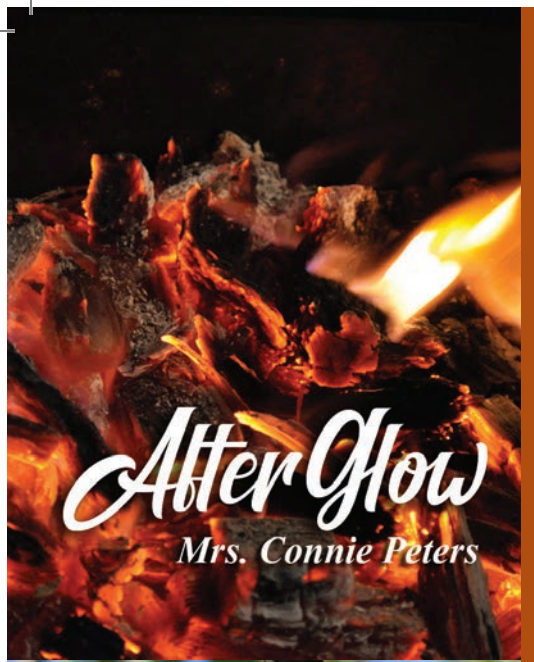
I will never forget the freedom from regret I felt when I fully understood **Romans 8:28** which says, *"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."* I have never done anything in my life that God did not already know I was going to do. Every decision I ever made, He already knew it. Every failure, pain, regret, disappointment, and bad choice; He already knew. But even during my mess ups, God had a plan to make good of my mess due to my love for Him.

If you have been saved by the precious blood of Jesus, then you are the called according to God's purpose. No matter your past, God has a better future for you if you will only trust and follow Him. Don't allow another memory of the past to rob you of your present or future. Allow God to determine what you are to fully accomplish in this life. There is still greatness in you, despite your past. Strive to be wiser in your decision making by studying God's Word and listening to the Holy Spirit. God is not one bit disappointed in you. So, settle down, catch your breath, and finish running the awesome race of life.

Remember, there is reward in your regrets, power in your pain, deliverance in your disappointments, forgiveness for your failures, and a message in your mess. Paul also said in **Hebrews 12:1-2a**, *"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..."*



Dr. Glenn Mills is a long time supporter of GoMix Christian Radio and a full-time Evangelist with Glenn Mills Ministries. More information is available at www.glennmillsministries.com



Autumn Pruning

With the cooler temperatures, autumn is the perfect time to get all of those yard projects completed. Raking and burning leaves, mulching flower beds, preparing for a spring garden, and pruning dead branches from trees and shrubs occupy the autumn months. We have been pruning a lot of dead branches from our trees this fall while hoping for healthier foliage in the springtime.

All of that pruning has made me do some pondering. Have you ever wondered how a tree feels about having its branches severed? Does it feel pain? Does it try to resist? Or does it feel like we do when we trim our nails and our hair?

Jesus compared His relationship with us as like the relationship between a vine and branches (**John 15:1-8**). He is the vine, and we are the branches. Our heavenly Father cares for the vine. As long as we abide in the vine, we can be fruitful. But sometimes, the Father sees the need to prune us so that we can bear more fruit. Some pruning is not painful, but most of the time, our pruning can be very painful.

God sees the worldly parasites that have infested our branches, and He proceeds to remove the damaged tissue. Sometimes, we have grown accustomed to those carnal parasites and removing them can be uncomfortable if not painful. But He knows that infestations will eventually cause permanent damage, so he purges those branches with loving concern so that we can receive nourishment from the vine and bear more fruit. To be healthy branches, we must allow and cooperate with our Father in the pruning process. Resisting only brings greater effort from our loving Father for our own well being. Submission ultimately brings fruitful relief.

Perhaps our efforts in pruning our trees and shrubs this fall will bring more fruit in the springtime. In like manner our Father's pruning, no matter how painful at the time, will result in greater fruitfulness in our own lives. Just as our trees go through a period of healing after the pruning, we may not see the fruit immediately. But in our Father's wisdom, the fruit will be revealed in due time. Ponder that!



Mrs. Connie Peters has two children and resides in Princeton, NC. Now retired, she formerly served as an instructor at Pathway Christian Academy in Goldsboro.



TAR RIVER LIFE



Kayaking & Tubing Rentals • Camping

CAMPING OPEN YEAR ROUND
SMALL & LARGE SITES
#15 GLAMPING SITE

TUBING **KAYAKING**
 1.5 MILES TRIP 3.4 MILES TRIP

GROUP RATES AVAILABLE

TARRIVERLIFE.COM
 919-496-9237



919-496-3076 677 NC HWY 98 E
 VOLLMERFARM.COM BUNN, NC 27508



SEASONAL PRODUCE **LOCAL ARTISANS**

U-PICK BLUEBERRIES & FLOWERS **COFFEE & BAKED GOODS**
HOMEMADE ICE CREAM

BREAKFAST & LUNCH **EVENT SPACE & MORE**

Upcoming Events:

June : Blueberry Paint & Sip, U-Pick Blueberries
 July : Pottery Paint & Sip
 August : Bouquet Workshop
 Sept. 17 - Nov. 21 : Fall Field Trips
 Sept. 27 - Nov. 1 Saturday & Sunday : Back 40 Fall Fun
 Christmas trees available starting Nov. 24
 Nov. 29 - Dec. 20 Saturdays : Santa Experience
 Nov. 28 - Dec. 20 Friday & Saturday : Turkey shoot

the *Herritage Elite* ESTATE

“A PREMIER RETIREMENT COMMUNITY”

WWW.HERRITAGEELITE.COM




- Elite “Chore Free” Retirement • 24 Hour Staff •
- 3 Home Cooked Meals Daily • Month-to-Month Commitment • 1 or 2 Bedroom Suites • Independent Living at its Finest • Life Enrichment Activities •
- Housekeeping and Laundry Service •

(252) 527-9131
 910 North Heritage St., Kinston, North Carolina 28501





THE

GOOD EARTH PEANUT COMPANY

5334 Skippers Rd Skippers, VA 23879 1-800-643-1695

We Have Corporate Specials, Fundraising Materials, & Wholesale Products!



The Good Earth Peanut Company is a family owned and operated business which is deeply rooted in Southside Virginia. We started small and have grown slowly for 30 plus years, all the while striving toward the goals we hope will sustain us, constant improvements in our products and nothing less than 100% customer satisfaction.



www.goodearthpeanuts.com