

THANKSGIVING 2021



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DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

I hope this letter finds you all feeling safe and sound in the care of our Heavenly Father and Our Lord Jesus Christ. It has been another difficult year for us all and I continue to think about and pray for all those we know who have suffered through illness and loss over these long months.

As we have been studying through the Wisdom Books this year, there is a core truth that binds all these various portions of Scripture together:

“The fear of the Lord —that is wisdom,
and to turn away from evil is understanding.”

Job 28:28

Those words were recorded for us over 4,000 years ago. This is the earliest statement of that fundamental, life guiding truth in the Scripture. It is a truth that is pondered in Ecclesiastes and expanded in the Proverbs. It is a truth that echoes in the Letters of the New Testament:

“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation **with fear and trembling**, 13 for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.” Philippians 2:12–13

To “fear the Lord” is to live in *awesome reverence* of Him, knowing that we are accountable to Him. To fear Him is to live in the way that is pleasing to him—motivated by hope, sustained in faith, expressed in love. In living this way, we are turning from evil.

The difference in the first utterance of this truth in Job and its echo in the New Testament is *the work of Christ which stands between the two*. Job was written about 2000 before the Cross and we live a little over 2000 years after the Cross. I am sure that you are very thankful—as I am—that we live *on this side of Christ’s work*. We have been given such a treasure in the Lord’s Word that allows us to know so much more than Job and his friends.

As we all continue to move through these difficult and confusing times, I am so thankful for the reality that Father God speaks to us in His Word and keeps us secure In Christ as He comforts and leads us by His Holy Spirit. I am also very thankful for the years the Lord has blessed us at TSF as He continues to provide for our needs. We are all thankful that He continues to give us opportunities to share His Word and lift up the name of Jesus our Lord and Savior.

WE ARE VERY THANKFUL FOR ALL OF YOU!

I want you to know how thankful I am for each and every one of you. Throughout the year, you have supported us through your financial gifts, prayers, attendance in classes, and the countless other ways you have encouraged and blessed us.

As we all give thanks this year, **would you also join us in prayer**, asking the Lord to continue to provide for our needs:

- ✂ **For Wisdom and Direction for the end of the year and the coming year.** We want to make the best use of our time and resources to do the things that are pleasing to The Lord.
- ✂ **For financial provision.** The end of the year is an important time for us in terms of donations and gifts. Please pray that the Lord would provide for our needs through the generosity of all who graciously give to us.

Each and every one of you make the ministry of TSF possible. We are so thankful for you all! *I pray that our Heavenly Father will bless you richly in Christ through His Spirit as you have been such a blessing to us.*

Stacy, Joyce and the Board of TSF.