

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING BY Pastor George Spencer Sunday, October 31, 2010
Heavenly Father, we thank you for this day called Halloween, originally called All Hallows Evening, when our spiritual forefathers and mothers came together to worship you, to give thanks for the 'hallowed' souls, the holy people we call the saints, whose souls have departed from this earth, but whose spirit and light we celebrate in our lives. Thank you for all the saintly people who have led us into having a real faith with you, and becoming members of Your Church.

Lord, we thank you for this Tuesday, when we celebrate the gift of freedom given to us by You and by all the saints who gave birth to this "one nation under God." We thank you for the unique opportunity to VOTE for godly leaders to GOVERN us, instead of dealing with ungodly people who would take over and RULE OVER us, like it is in so many other nations.

God, with all the political talk, help us to discern the truth and to choose the most godly men and women, regardless of party, who honor you as God, and will serve Your people "with liberty and justice for all."

Lord, we also know that no matter how good the leaders are, they're still human, and no human being can change a heart or save a nation. We're grateful that in any nation or economy, when we follow You, we can have "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," when we honor You as our Creator God.

Lord, so many people in our nation are so unhappy, griping and complaining and so angry at what others have, and at what they don't have. God, teach us that when persons and nations follow Your ways for handling money and living life, You bless EVERYONE with true freedom and true prosperity, which begins with looking at what we already have, thanking You for everything, and believing, that trusting in You, more blessings will follow.

Father, Jesus shows us that You are our Daddy God and as we count our blessings, we honor You now with this gift, and we present it to you freely and cheerfully, with gratitude, because we really ARE blessed.

Please honor our gifts to You for CrossRoad...

for this worship where You feed and nurture and heal our souls;

for this building and our groups and classes where we and our children and grandchildren can grow into the people we want to become;

for fellowship times like the Fall Festival, and celebrations like Thanksgiving and Christmas coming up;

and for being able to help meet the needs of our neighbors and friends, from Windy Hill to around the world, who need to know Your love and Your ways like we do.

So now we return to You this tithe or this gift, because through our God-given talents, we have enough – and some to spare and share, so that we may continue to worship and grow ourselves, and help build up the faith of people around us, by loving them like You love us, in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.