



Jeff Sweeten

Thurs Faith the Lord
is presented by the

Park Heights Church of Christ

1300 E. Boynton St.
Hamilton
254-386-3953

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. Bible Class
10:25 a.m. Morning Worship
1:30 p.m. Afternoon Worship

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Please call or email if you
have a question or comment
254-386-3953

jeffdsweeten@gmail.com or
chelejones24@yahoo.com

Website:
www.parkheightscoc.com

Thurs Faith the Lord

“THANK YOU”

By Jeff Sweeten

So, there I was: waterless; we lost city water. As the faucet spewed and sputtered, I suddenly became nostalgic, imagining how life used to be before modern utilities. Dad used to tell stories of life in the Hill Country and his trips to the Nueces River about one-hundred yards behind the little two-bedroom shanty in which he, his parents and four siblings lived. At eleven, it was his responsibility to rise at the crack of dawn and make the trek through the brush and across a gravel-bar to bring back buckets of river water that would be used for cooking and hygiene.

Those were the “good ol’ days.” Even my childhood elation returned momentarily: I wouldn’t have to bathe tonight. Then it hit me, how many privileges we possess and how many are taken for granted... until we lose them.

I suppose that the natural, knee-jerk response to this inconvenience among at least some folks was grumbling, frustration or discontent. Perhaps a few even called city hall to find out what was going on, only to hear the gentle, kind message: “It’ll be forever before we get the problem fixed” (okay, maybe that is a bit much but the message was gentle and kind). I was thinking, after a day of work in the sun, a splash of “stink-um-purty” was not going to do the trick; I needed a bath. Then, all of the sudden, living back in the “good ol’ days” didn’t seem so “good.”

Privilege is usually an earned accoutrement given to responsible, disciplined persons; a reward of sorts that adheres to one’s name or character. At least, that’s what it used to be. Anymore, it is an expected entitlement, deserved for merely existing. And, when privilege is not extended (with sincere humility), it is cause for a righteous indignation by those who deem themselves slighted.

All of that to say that we live in a culture of ingratitude. It seems that too few appreciate the benefits we enjoy and, when these conveniences absent themselves (for whatever reason), the blame-game begins.

Might I humbly suggest that we be grateful for the wonderful services we receive and, when there arises some brief, temporary absence of such, that we remind ourselves of how wonderful it is to live in a time when such convenience is commonplace. We should thank those who worked tirelessly to solve the water supply issue and be grateful that it took no longer than it did to remedy the problem. Who or what is to blame should only be an exercise in preventative discovery, what can be done to avoid any future issues.

Some two-thousand years of Christianity seems to have bred the same level of ingratitude among those who forget to say “thank you” to God for the salvation that is “in Christ” (Galatians 3:26- 27). Indeed, we live in perilous times, where people are “lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers... unthankful...” (2 Timothy 3:2). Is “Thank You” really so difficult?