

Good morning, church family. I hope that your day has started off as great as mine has. God has been good to us, so, as we celebrate this Thanksgiving week, I want to be sure to tell Him "thank you" for His marvelous gifts to me: for my salvation, for my family, for healing, and for you, dear church. I am blessed to be your pastor. And I am thankful for our new member, Mrs. Margaret Caldwell who joined us officially yesterday. She has been a part of our family for years now, but I am grateful that God led her to move her membership. Let her know how happy you are for her decision.

Yesterday, I sat in my office and thanked God for a little girl named Karoline. I will never forget how she introduced herself to me the very first time I met her. "I'm Karoline with a K." I have loved watching her grow up these last almost 3 years, but I have especially loved watching her bubbly personality explode in joy in our worship services. To hear her sing loudly. To look at her smiling face. But yesterday, I listened to her mother and father tell me what a comfort she had been to them after the loss of a dear family member. The faith of a child reminded them that they would see their loved one again. I was blessed to listen to the story of how she lifted them up in their time of sorrow, and I can't wait to have the opportunity to baptize Karoline with a K in the next few weeks!

But as I have thought about those few minutes yesterday, I was reminded that the holiday season is tough for those who have lost people they love. This has been a particularly tough year for so many in our church and in our community. I hope that we will all take the time

to pray for and comfort those whose hearts are broken and whose dinner tables will have an empty chair this Thanksgiving. Let's truly be the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus this week.

I hope that you have a fantastic Thanksgiving! Bro. Ben

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