PRAISE

Thanksgiving

A Blue, Cold Morning

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▶ VIDEO COMPANION

A Blue, Cold Morning

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CM4ILF7BHTg

> *And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need, for such sacrifices are very pleasing to God.*
>
> HEBREWS 13:16

A young man decided to write a simple note of thanks to a grade school teacher who had inspired him 30 years earlier.

Days later, he received a frail, handwritten note in return:

"My Dear Wally: I am in my nineties, living alone in a small room. Yours is the first note of appreciation I ever received in 50 years of teaching. It came on a blue, cold morning, and it cheered me as nothing has done in many years."

What a powerful reminder of the impact a few words of appreciation can have! Sometimes, the kindness we express today reaches a heart who has waited years to hear it.

Hebrews 13:16 reminds us, "And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need, for such sacrifices are very pleasing to God."

Don't let another day pass without expressing appreciation to someone who has made a difference in your life, whether years ago or just recently.

You could send a text, write an email, or mail a personal note to a teacher, mentor, pastor, or friend. Let them know their investment in your life mattered. You may never fully realize how much your words will mean to them.

Steven Curtis Chapman beautifully captures the heart of the life we could all live with a little more “Kindness”:

“What if we lived with a heart of kindness? What if we loved like we’ve been loved?”

This Thanksgiving, let's not only look upward in gratitude to God but also look outward toward the people He has placed along our paths. Kindness is a ministry, and appreciation is one of the simplest ways we can share God's love.

A Closing Thought

Lord, help us never underestimate the power of a grateful heart or a kind word. Open our eyes to the people who have shaped our lives and those who may be quietly longing for encouragement today.

Give us the courage to speak our appreciation while we still have the opportunity. May our words bring warmth to a weary heart, hope to a lonely soul, and a little sunshine to someone else's blue, cold morning. Amen.

Remember: You may never know how much your words mean to someone until you take the time to say them. Don't wait another 30 years. Let someone know today that their life has made a difference.

Karen Good

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