



A Sacrifice of Praise & Thanksgiving

Dear Nekesa (Harvester),

What a wonderful time of year to celebrate with our loved ones, our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. We love the American celebration of Thanksgiving. A time that you stop to reflect on all the Lord has done, and to focus on gratitude.

The Word shares so many benefits of gratitude and thankfulness!

Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with **thanksgiving** let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

I have read this passage and preached this so many times. But, how often do I stop and remind myself to be Thankful! Many times we pray to make our requests known to the Lord, but we forget to do it with thanksgiving. This is the power of Thanksgiving, 'the peace of God will guard our heart and minds'. Margaret and I are choosing to live a life of gratitude and thankfulness. This is the power that allows the peace of God to rule in our hearts in the midst of trials, rather than allowing the trials to rule us.

Psalms 22:3 "The Lord inhabits the praises of His People."

It amazes me to think that our Lord and Saviour, in all His fulness, chooses to inhabit the praises of our mouth. Have we stopped to truly understand what this means? It is so akin to Fatih! Can anyone praise the Lord and be thankful and not have faith?

My wife, Margaret, makes the best Ugali! Once I smell it, I just can't help but sit in the kitchen, then steal a taste when she isn't looking. I praise my wife and tell people how wonderful her cooking is. I share how it smells when she cooks and how it pleases me. I am Praising my wife! You know what happens then? It stirs in her a desire to cook the best Ugali. She desires to meet, inhabit, the level of the praise I give her.

In a similar way our Lord inhabits our Praise. We we choose to give a sacrifice of Praise and Thanksgiving to the Lord, He fulfills the very thing we are praising him for!

Psalms 31:1 "I will exalt the LORD at all times; **his praise will always be on my lips**. My soul will boast in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together."

Hebrews 13:15 "Through him then let us continually offer up a **sacrifice of praise to God**, that is, the fruit of our lips that acknowledge his name."

Make time this year to offer the Lord your sacrifice of Praise and Thanksgiving!

This month we are reporting in November, but we want to invite you into an opportunity to bless your children of Bungoma Children's Home for Christmas this December.

This year we plan a very special outing with the kids to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. We invite you to make this the best Christmas experience for the orphans possible!



James 1:27 "True Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: **to look after orphans** and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Matthew 25:37-40 "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Would you give this Christmas to care for, and bless your Children in Bungoma Children's Home?

Thank you for your faithful partnership, Margaret and I thank our Lord Jesus for you often!
Forever Grateful,

Justus Ochuro

