

# Mustang

# Message



November 2024

## Thankfulness Is About As Christian As You Can Be

By Nathan Reeves

Google thankfulness. Go ahead, Google it! I did it today and noticed that besides the definition websites, all the other websites but one were Christian-based. Why is that? Well, it's not because Hollywood promotes thankfulness! The network news channels and the music industry doesn't either. Thankfulness is overwhelmingly seen by the world as a Christian virtue. Want to shock someone or stand out in the crowd? Just tell them how much you appreciate them!

II Corinthians 6:17 says, "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord." Christians should be different from non-Christians. We shouldn't be uppity about it, but we should be different. We should be different or separate in our talk, appearance, entertainment, and attitude. And one big way to separate ourselves from the world is by being thankful.

So what should we be thankful for? If you don't know, this article probably won't help much! But you probably do, so let's think of a few – family, health, church, work, friends, BRCA (!), provision, freedoms, transportation, and the Bible are just a few. It took me about 45 seconds to come up with that short list, and

you could triple that in no time flat. So do it! Take three minutes and thank God for what He's done for you and what He's given you.

Now we have to show it. How? Well, first we must display it ourselves. Ask your spouse or a good friend if they honestly think you are a grateful person. If they say yes, ask them why they think so. Then sit down with your family and announce that you are going to work at being more thankful. Now you've put the pressure on yourself, and you have to perform...so set yourself up! Pile the family in the minivan, drive to Andy's, and thank the lady who hands you the ice frozen custard. Then find one thing that you're thankful for in each of your family members, and periodically tell them. The next time you're in town with your family, purposefully find a person to thank such as a soldier, a restaurant worker, or a grocery store bag boy.

These are just ideas. You don't have to take them. Find your own way to practically train yourself and your child to be thankful and to show thankfulness. And when you do, be prepared to stand out in the crowd.



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# Current Events

## Oct 31-Nov 2 Men's Challenge

Men, we hope you'll join us for this excellent time of food, fellowship, and spiritual growth. If you've never come, you should try it this year!

## Nov. 18-22 Good Shepherd Children's Home Food Drive

Use this opportunity to teach your child about giving. Let's be a HUGE encouragement to the children and staff at the children's home this year!

### Nov. 22 Donuts with Dad

Hey dads...join us for donuts, coffee & juice in your child's classroom!

### Nov. 22 Spirit Day

This is the day to wear all things BRCA! Get your Merch Store orders in now!

### Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Assembly

Parents of Elementary students will want to join us for this assembly of praise. Each class will have a presentation onstage that you won't want to miss! *No Extended Care that day.*

## Nov. 26 Middle School Parent Day

Parents come and meet our middle schoolers, eat lunch with your child, par-

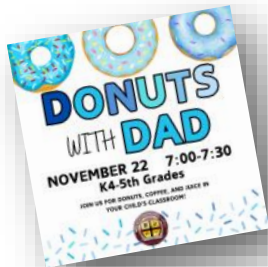
ticipate in a team meeting and experience a wheel spin (maybe even a jacket ceremony)!

## Nov. 27-29 Thanksgiving Break

Have a wonderful break. Enjoy the family, fellowship, and especially the food!!!

## Dec. 5-7 Couples Retreat

Relax and recharge with a two-night getaway for married couples! There will be outstanding preaching, enjoyable activities, and delicious food.



# Helpful Family

**Q** If you don't have parental controls on the devices in your home, you might be too late. This is something we recommend for all families. **Qustodio** helps parents control screen time, games, and adult content. This app does cost (starting at \$5/month), but it's one of the best types of apps you can have. Even if you don't get Qustodio, please get some sort of parental control app.



**Echo** is a prayer app that allows you to create (& shuffle) a prayer list. It even can remind you throughout the week to pray for specific requests. It's simple & free!



**Verses** provides an excellent way to memorize Scripture. It incorporates a variety of memory techniques & encourages you to start & maintain memory streaks. The app starts at \$4.99.



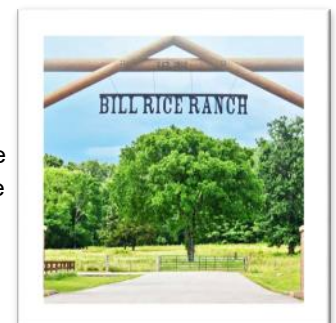
**Simplifi** is a simple, but powerful, budgeting app. This app allows you to track all spending, set goals for saving, & tell your money exactly where to go! The app does cost \$35.99/year.

## Don't forget your Mustang merch!

# Bill Rice Ranch 101

Every few years we do a series of articles on the different ministries of the Bill Rice Ranch. I hope this will give you a wider panoramic of what the Bill Rice Ranch really is. First of all, let me repeat what our president, Wil Rice IV, often says, "The Ranch is people, not buildings, programs, or activities." It takes literally hundreds of people to make this ministry run, and several of them live and work right here on the Ranch in the departments we will highlight. So as you learn, remember that it is people that make up the Bill Rice Ranch.

One aspect of the Bill Rice Ranch that most folks know nothing about is our publications department. This division prints all types of materials that are helpful to us and to folks literally across the country. They meet the Ranch's printing needs through books, flyers, printed music, brochures, programs, web design, deaf Bible resources, and other miscellaneous items. They also print many things for BRCA, including the *Mustang Messages*. What a great help this department is to our ministry and to others around the country!





# Picture This!



## Fall Retreats

**MEN'S CHALLENGE**

OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 2  
 COST: \$130  
\*Save \$10 if registered by October 24.

JOHN COLLIER

EVANGELISTS WIL RICE IV & BILL RICE III

SOLID PREACHING • GREAT FOOD • UPLIFTING FELLOWSHIP

*Couples Retreat*

RELAX AND RECHARGE WITH A TWO-NIGHT GETAWAY FOR MARRIED COUPLES!

**Dec 5-7**

COST \$310 per couple  
\*Save \$50 if registered by November 29.

Visit the Retreat webpage at [www.billriceeach.org](http://www.billriceeach.org) for more information

# Elementary Students of the Month

**Matthew Kubota:** Matthew has done an exceptional job showing respect. He always says “yes, ma’am” and “no, ma’am” & “please” and “thank you” without me having to remind him. He is a great example of respect, and I am so proud of him!

**Mariella Thornton:** Mariella shows respect by waiting patiently and not interrupting when I am talking to someone else. She respects the school property by keeping her area clean. Keep it up!

**Elias Dehmlow:** Elias has shown exemplary respect, not just to authorities, but to other students as well. He truly understands the value of respect.

**Claudine Joseph:** Claudine is an extremely respectful young lady! She works hard to consistently respond to every person and situation with the right attitude.

**Hannah Perla:** Hannah has been great at consistently showing respect! She remembers to “say thank” you when handed items or when being helped by a friend. She shows respect to her classmates and adults. Way to go, Hannah!

**Elizabeth McQuiston:** Elizabeth shows respect. She always responds with “yes, ma’am” and a friendly “good morning.” Keep it up, Elizabeth!

**Aubrielle Garcia:** Aubrielle has really grown since coming to our school and has been working very hard. She is very respectful and does her best to do what is right.

## Character Trait of the Month:

# THANKFULNESS

**Definition:** expressing gratefulness; outwardly giving thanks!

**Examples:**

1. Say “Thank you” each time you receive something (e.g., help, a compliment, a test, a treat, etc.).
2. Never complain.
3. Say “No, thank you” each time you are offered something that you do not take.

## BILL RICE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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## Middle School Student Highlight with Paisley Bowen

**Miss Lacy:** Tell me about yourself.

**Paisley:** I like to climb trees, go camping, play with my dogs, and do anything that makes me hyper.

**Miss Lacy:** What is your favorite thing about your parents?

**Paisley:** They are kind and trust me and we have a strong connection of love. They also take me to church.

**Miss Lacy:** What is your favorite thing about Middle School at BRCA?

**Paisley:** The teams! We learn to work together and encourage the other teams.

**Miss Lacy:** What do you like most about your teachers?

**Paisley:** Mr. Emmons is funny, Mrs. Goodale tells me math facts so I can understand things better, and Miss Gorham explains well so I can actually understand the concepts.

**Miss Lacy:** What do you hope to do when you grow up?

**Paisley:** I would like to be a beekeeper.



### Middle School Teams

