Thanksgiving—A Matter of Perspective
From the Pastor’s Heart

The story is told of a father of a wealthy family who took his son on a trip to the country to show his son how poor people can be. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family. On their return from the trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"
"It was great, Dad."
"Did you see how poor people can be?" the father asked.
"Oh yeah," said the son.
"So what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father.
The son answered: "I saw that we have one dog, and they have four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden, and they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lanterns in our garden, and they have stars at night. Our patio reaches to the front yard, and they have the whole horizon.
"We have a small piece of land to live on, and they have fields that go beyond sight. We buy our food, but they grow theirs. We have walls around our property to protect us, but they have their friends to protect them."
With this, the boy's father was speechless.
Then his son added, "Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are."

So often we define our "riches" by comparing them with others. The Bible describes spiritual and eternal riches given to believers of Christ that can never be compared to anything on this earth. With such riches in mind we can find the blessings of God in the simplest and smallest ways in our lives. So, who's really poor? Some of the "poorest" people on earth are the richest——because they've discovered the secret of contentment and perspective.

"I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need." Philippians 4:11-12

And, couldn’t this be, in this month of Thanksgiving, where thanksgiving in our hearts to God really starts?
Realize the riches He’s given you.

Pastor Russ