

SERMON NOTES

December 29, 2013

GOBSTOPPERS

“**Gob**” is an informal English term for the mouth; it forms the root of the word “gobble.” Thus, the gobstopper got its name because the hard, spherical candy cannot be enjoyed while talking.

OPENED WHEN IT SHOULD BE SHUT

Colossians 3:15-17 *Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be **thankful**. 16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with **gratitude** in your hearts. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving **thanks** to God the Father through him.*

GET RID OF THESE GOBSTOPPERS

- ❶ *I'll send a thank-you note _____*
- ❷ *That was nice but I really don't think it's _____*
“The devil doesn't have to steal anything from you [to make you miserable], all he has to do is make you take it for granted.” Max L.
- ❸ *My life is a _____; I really don't have much to be thankful for at the _____*
- ❹ *I'm a very grateful person, I'm just not good at _____ it*
“Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.” William Arthur Ward

GRACIOUS GOD-STARTERS

* **Gracious words are powerful... You've _____**
Proverbs 16:24 *Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.*

DON'T BE A GOD-STOPPER

All references taken from Today's New International Version of the Bible unless noted.

Three Guiding Principles For Our Church

HI 5

It is our goal to greet everyone who visits us at least 5 times as they enter and 5 times as they leave.

50/50

In all our ministries we endeavor to think about the people who have not yet become followers of Jesus Christ. 50/50 is meant to communicate that we will always strive to connect to Pre-Christians as well as Christians.

Belong. Believe. Behave.

We always want to keep in mind that people need to feel a sense that they belong no matter what their background or past experience. To us, Belonging comes before Believing and Behaving.