



BASIS is
a ministry to
bereaved parents
and their families.

Winter 2018–2019

Renew

"...those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength." Isaiah 40:31

The Best Christmas Gift Ever

by Don Allison, Director of BASIS

What this tells me is that **God has given the "best" gift**, a gift too wonderful to describe. He has given Himself through Jesus, who was born into the human family so we could be born into His family.

It is good for us to **reflect on God's gift** as we consider the gifts we give and receive. I have come to understand that the value of Christmas is not determined by the presents under the tree, but the presence of our loved ones, especially the Presence of Jesus in our lives.

I would not want to deprive our daughter, Crystal, from her 14th Christmas celebration in heaven, but from my human standpoint I would forgo any and all Christmas presents just to spend another Christmas with Crystal here. Just to see her smile and give her another Christmas hug would be enough for me. Well, no, I would then wish she could stay with us; but I know that will not happen.

The value of gifts is not determined by dollars but by relationships. Let's cherish the relationships we still have even though we miss our deceased loved ones so very, very much.

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth... From the fullness of His grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made Him known."
John 1:14-18



**"His
inestimable gift."**

"His unspeakable gift."

"His incomparable gift."

"Thank God for this gift, His gift."

No language can praise it enough."

"His gift too wonderful for words."

"His indescribable generosity to you."

"Thank God for His indescribable gift."

"Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!"

II Corinthians 9:15 (as translated by different translators)



Parents Share



"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ."

I Thessalonians 5:18

The death of a child is indeed a grievous loss. There is no other loss as difficult to accept, since in our 20th century American culture, children are expected to outlive their parents.

Through the grieving process, however, God's will for us is to be thankful! Is it possible to look beyond the devastating emptiness? What can we be thankful for?

First of all, we can be thankful for Christ's atoning death, sins forgiven and that we are His children.

As a loving heavenly Father, He sees, He knows, He cares about our hurts and heartaches.

We should take time to be thankful for those family members and friends who have been supportive and who have stood by through the most difficult times, willing to listen and to help in whatever way possible.

And we can use our grief experience, our loss, for His glory as we continue to trust Him and to show forth His love in our lives.

Nancy Beach
Laura Mae (4)
car accident

BASIS Support Groups

*for Bereaved parents and their families —
Join us at one of these locations.*

Akron, PA 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM (Sept-May)
Aldan, PA 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Lavelle, PA 3rd Sunday, 1:00 PM (Sept-May)
Lebanon, PA 1st Tuesday, 7:00 PM (Sept-May)
Paradise, PA 1st Monday, 7:00 PM
Williamstown, NJ TBD
Harrington, DE 1st Thursday, 7:30 PM
Lakeland, FL TBD

Call us at 717.859.4777 for additional information.

H*VMI Upcoming Events

November 16 ExtraOrdinary Give Fundraiser

April 6, 2019 New Jersey Fundraising Banquet
Centerton, NJ

Please visit hvmi.org or call 717.859.4777 for details.

Memorial Gifts

July–September 2018

**BASIS would like to gratefully acknowledge
memorial gifts from the following:**

Given By

In Memory of

Hannah Arrell	Janice Arrell
Doug & Ann Bennett.....	Patty Bennett
Matt & Cynthia Brown	Joshua Brown
John & Lois Cameron	Jonathan Winfield Cameron
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Dale & Patricia Feckley	Brandon Heck
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Clyde & Melva Herr	Jason Herr
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Patricia Irwin	All BASIS Children
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Joanna Williams	Jimmie Williams
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John & Eileen Yorty.....	Sara Yorty



Thanksgiving in the Midst of Grief?

by Don Allison, Director of BASIS



Many years ago in preparation for a Thanksgiving sermon, I came across the following quote from a great Christian who was robbed. It helped give me a different perspective on thankfulness.

"I thank Thee first because I was never robbed before; second, because although they took my purse they did not take my life; third, because although they took my all, it was not much; and fourth because it was I who was robbed, and not I who robbed." Matthew Henry

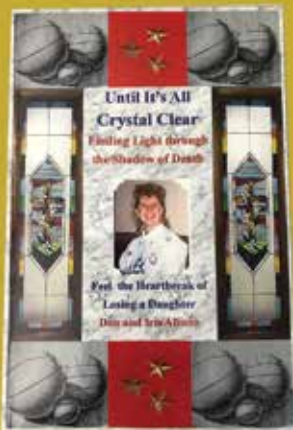
I'm not sure how that directly applies to dealing with grief. Suggesting that our grief could be worse is not a helpful message and could be a hurtful message. Telling a bereaved parent that they "still have other children", or that "they are young and can have another child" is cruel.

In light of all this, what can I be thankful for in the middle of my painful grief?

- **I am thankful for** *"the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, Who comforts us in all our troubles..."* 2 Corinthians 1:3-4a.

- **I am thankful for** a wife who shares my grief.
- **I am thankful for** family and friends who are supportive.
- **I am thankful for** a church that ministers to me.
- **I am thankful for** the hope I have that *"Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."* Revelation 21: 3b-4
- **I am thankful for** the promise, *"For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death."* 1 Corinthians 15: 25-26
- **I am thankful for** precious memories.

My prayer is that in spite of your grief you will also be aware of blessings for which you too can be thankful.



Our book, *"Until It's All Crystal Clear,"* is now available on Amazon and an advertisement is on YouTube. This is the story of our daughter, Crystal, a thirty-six year old mother stricken with leukemia. It is a heartwarming story of triumph of life over death.

Don and Iris Allison



Dates to Remember



A Prayer Plan

The plan is very simple. Use the dates below as your guide. Keep Renew in a handy place and pray for the parents of the children remembered on each day. You will be blessed and so will the ones for whom you pray.

DECEMBER

- 1: David Hoffman, Mary Moore-died
- 3: Anneka Vels, Landon Vels-died
- 3: Raymond Shenk III,
William Steiner-birthday
- 4: Katie Russell-birthday
- 5: Kimberly Falls-died
- 6: Kristi Walborn-birthday
- 6: Scott Bartholomew,
Brandon Lock-died
- 7: Eric Renegar-birthday
- 7: Adam Herr-died
- 7: Anna Stuckey-date of birth and death
- 9: David McIlvaine,
Ryan Schuster-birthday
- 9: Jonathan Rasnake-died
- 12: Russell Krepp-died
- 14: Amanda Halteman,
Tyler Howe-birthday
- 14: Joseph Hansell, Ryan Nolen,
Paula Nyce-died
- 15: Tyler Howe-died
- 16: Gerard Dooley,
Ronald Emsoff-birthday
- 19: Shelia Hollinger-birthday
- 20: Christopher Burlingame,
Barbara Peifer, Michael Stone-died
- 20: Dawn Wagner-birthday
- 22: Owen Schiffer-birthday
- 23: Justin Yarbrough-birthday
- 23: Vincent Cellucci, Seth Linsinbigler,
Justin Mack-died
- 24: Michael Chappine-died
- 25: Barbara Lang, Marlin Carl-died
- 26: Steven Butts,
Vincent Williams-birthday
- 26: Talia Emslie, Corey Patches-died
- 28: Michael Chappine-birthday
- 30: Frank Halter-birthday

JANUARY

- 1: Melissa Heydenreich-died
- 5: Christian Anderson-birthday
- 5: John Witcraft-died
- 6: Baby Smallwood-died
- 7: Nena Hay-birthday
- 8: Nicole Mazza-died
- 9: John Stein-birthday
- 10: Colleen Heron-birthday
- 10: Bill VanDerbeek-died
- 11: Kenny Fable-birthday
- 11: Grace E. Lobis-died
- 12: Joshua Ewing, Carl Henninger-died
- 13: Brandon Heck,
Maurice Williams-birthday
- 13: Samuel Peachey-date of birth and death
- 15: Kara Hocker, Keith Smith-birthday
- 15: Kenny Fable-died
- 16: John Griffith, Nena Hay,
DeVaughn Terenchin,
Kristi Walborn-died
- 17: Amy Parker-died
- 18: Shari Lloyd-birthday
- 19: Nathanael Beiler, Sarah Cole,
Christina Jones-birthday
- 21: Julie Ochs-birthday
- 22: Art Regal-died
- 23: Victor Andronie, Stacey Gutz-birthday
- 24: Kent Erickson,
Nathan Dale Mowrer-birthday
- 25: Noah Lord-birthday
- 26: Morgan Kelly-birthday
- 26: Jimmy Nowasielski-died
- 27: Raymond Shenk III-died
- 28: Christian Anderson, Walter Schauer III,
Owen Schiffer-died
- 29: Jeffrey Short-died
- 30: Colin Fitzpatrick,
Vincent Williams-died

FEBRUARY

- 1: Mark Zakuluk-birthday
- 2: David Benster, Michelle Huber-died
- 3: Morgan Kelly-died
- 4: Zachary Meck, Ashley Meyers-died
- 5: Christina Gelnett-birthday
- 5: Michael Coldiron-died
- 6: Rose Rogers-birthday
- 7: Michael Smoyer-birthday
- 8: Thomas Leidy-birthday
- 8: Jennifer Melucci-date of birth and death
- 9: Mark Zakuluk-died
- 10: Robert Reedy,
Rocky Saginario-birthday
- 10: Hannah Cohen-died
- 12: Eric Renegar-died
- 13: Deanna Bartron-birthday
- 13: Tommy Burke-died
- 14: Mary DeMeglio, John Kirkpatrick,
Holly Smith-birthday
- 14: Tyler Klingseiser-died
- 16: Maddox Evans, Buddy Hoesch-birthday
- 17: Isabel Rineer-birthday
- 17: Dolores Jewell, Shawn Johnson-died
- 18: Jay Butcher-died
- 19: Isabel Rineer-died
- 20: Jacob Sweigart-died
- 21: Paul Maurer-birthday
- 22: Tyree Long, Abigail Wright-birthday
- 22: John Stein, Nathan Swymer-died
- 23: Adrienne Squier-birthday
- 23: Frank Halter, Baby Smallwood-died
- 24: Anna Diffenderfer, Patrick Hastings-birthday
- 24: Mary Drosehn, Maddox Evans-died
- 26: Shawn Donley, Abigail Wright-died
- 27: Keith Smith-died
- 28: David Weaver-birthday



BASIS Director
Don Allison

BASIS
is a ministry to
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and their families.

*A ministry
under the leadership of*



**Handi*Vangelism
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hvmi.org

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**Check out our blog on the
H*VMI website. Go to:
hvmi.org > blogs > grief**

NOTE: If you received *Renew*
and your child's name is not
shown in their birth and
death month, please notify us
immediately so we can make
those corrections. Thank you for
your understanding.

By supporting BASIS you will help others.

*By your prayers • By referring other bereaved parents to our ministry • By participating in BASIS-sponsored events as you are able
By placing your child on the "Wall of Remembrance" • By using resources provided by BASIS • By your financial donations*