

Things I Am Thankful For

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With the coming of the New Year, usually we make resolutions about things we want to change, or new things we want to accomplish. But this year I am thinking about all the blessings I have in my life. I guess I have one resolution – to enjoy these things even more in the upcoming year. Here is a partial list, in no particular order.

My wife – Patient, kind, beautiful. If you have ever met her, you understand how lucky I am. We just celebrated our 20th anniversary. I look forward to 50 more.

My kids – If I would have known how much fun kids were, I would have started earlier and had more. It is fun to watch them grow and mature. Just wish I could slow it down.

Grace and mercy – received the ultimate gift when I was 20 years old. My life is defined by this gift from God. There are times when I take this for granted.

Fishing – I love going fishing with my kids. Then coming home and eating the catch. Actually, it's not about the fishing, more about the kids.

Milk gravy – I'm not sure if I can ever get enough of this. Every Saturday morning, on biscuits with eggs and grits. Homemade, not that packaged stuff.

Camping with my family – my in-laws like to meet somewhere and camp. Never really did that growing up, but have discovered the fun. Get to have milk gravy outside.

My in-laws – I guess while I am at it, I am thankful for my in-laws. Most are half-crazy. A couple are full-blown. But I love them. And as the nieces and nephews come on, the fun follows.

Tennessee – This is such a great place to live. Too many things to name, but the weather, the scenery, and the people are just a few. Everybody who grows up here should have to leave for a few years. That way they will appreciate it more when they move back.

Fireplaces – I feel sorry for people that don't have a fireplace. Nothing more enjoyable than getting up early, building a fire and enjoying the sound, feel and smell. Then you get to eat biscuits and gravy by the fire.

I-40 – That interstate makes my life a whole lot easier. If not for that, there would be a lot more time in the car and nights in hotels. President Eisenhower was a genius.

Cellphones – Although sometimes these are a nuisance, I can contact family or friends at a moment's notice. It has taken some of the worry out of loved ones traveling. Plus, when I think of something funny, I don't have to wait until I get home to tell my wife.

This will do for now. I could write several more pages, but I have to stop somewhere. You should make your own list. In the words of that old song, "Count your many blessings, name them one by one."