

Plethora

If you would look up this word in the dictionary, it would state the following: a large or excessive amount of (something), excess, overabundance, surplus. Whether we realize it or not, we have and are given a **plethora** of gifts from God. Sometimes these gifts are quite obvious and yet some present themselves in hidden ways. "Blessed" is a word that we often use to describe how we're feeling when we are aware of how good God has been to us. A **plethora** of blessings that we receive are always gifts and are freely given. From time to time our greatest blessings are hidden in circumstances that may be very difficult like grief, financial hardship, and unresolved conflict. So often we wait until we are at these lowest moments in life when we cry out to the Lord and take notice of what we do not have, rather of the blessings that we do have. Even on our worst days, we remain richly and deeply blessed. During this time of year, I am reminded of the famous Christmas movie, "*It's A Wonderful Life.*" We see George Bailey learning to fully appreciate his many blessings. His blessings were hidden in plain sight and yet he struggled to see them. But after his experience with an angel named Clarence, his whole perspective changes. George's realization that the stuff that does matter (family, faith and friends) reaches to such a magnitude that his blessings are shared in the hearts of everyone in Bedford Falls. George Bailey learned to appreciate the **plethora** of the little blessings and gifts that were given to him throughout his entire life. As we seek, ask and accept the blessings that are freely given to us, let us pray to the Lord: "*Open the eyes of my heart Lord, Open the eyes of my heart. I want to see you.*"

"I cried because I had no shoes until I met a man who had no feet." Helen Keller

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