



Pastor Scott Archer 11.20.2016\*  
Central Congregational Church  
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"  
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### **Thankful Beyond Words**

Deuteronomy 26:1-12

Series: Possessing the Promises of God - Learning from the Past,  
Leaning into the Future

### **Central Passage**

**Deuteronomy 26:1–11 (NIV)** — **1** When you have entered the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, **2** take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the LORD your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name **3** and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come to the land the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." **4** The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the LORD your God. **5** Then you shall declare before the LORD your God: "My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. **6** But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, subjecting us to harsh labor. **7** Then we cried out to the LORD, the God of our ancestors, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. **8** So the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders. **9** He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; **10** and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, LORD, have given me." Place the basket before the LORD your God and bow down before him. **11** Then you and the Levites and the foreigners residing among you shall rejoice in all the good things the LORD your God has given to you and your household.

**Central Thought:** To ensure that we stay connected to the true source of our life and well-being, God requires that our verbal worship and thanksgiving be tied to regular offerings of the first and best of our resources.

### **Your Notes and Reflections**