What I am Grateful For

By: Alexis Richards

Thanksgiving is a very special time of year when family, friends and loved ones come together and show each other how grateful they are for having each other in their lives. Thanksgiving is a time when you and your family share a delicious meal and appreciate all that you have. We appreciate our loved ones, special achievements and time together.

I am grateful for my loving parents. My parents have taught me to believe in myself and the talents that God has blessed me with. They have taught me to be kind, loving, compassionate and respectful to everyone no matter the color of their skin or their background. They have also taught me to appreciate all the freedoms that I have in this country. They have taught me that African Americans in this country did not always have the freedoms that I have today. When I was in kindergarten we celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. day. I learned that Martin Luther King Jr. wanted equality for all people. In 1914 only 102 years ago there was what was called Jim Crow Laws. These laws created a separation between black people and white people. Black people could not use the same bathrooms as white people, black people could not ride at the front of the bus or attend the same schools as white people. I am grateful that Martin Luther King Jr. led the Civil rights movement in 1963 to change the way black people were being treated in America. I am grateful that in life Martin Luther King Jr. fought for the rights of black people and his death motivated so many people for change. That change has given me the freedom to grow up in an America where a black man named Barack Hussein Obama is the man I call Mr. President. I am grateful that I am an African American girl in America and that I have grown up knowing that if I work hard enough and never give up I can be anything I want to be. I am grateful that my parents love God and have taught me and my brother about Him and helped to fill our hearts with God’s loving promises.

My parents have always taught me the importance of both God and my education and I am grateful my parents are helping me attend Linden Seventh Day Adventist School. My education at Linden Seventh Day Adventist School teaches me about God during my education every day.

There are so many wonderful things I have to be grateful for. My hope is that everyone would be grateful every day not just during Thanksgiving but throughout the year for God’s many wonderful blessings.

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School:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Linden SDA School\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Signature\_\_Je’Nean Richards\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_