

Being Thankful

Luke 17:12-19

THANKFULLNESS!

- **Being mindful of favors granted (Thayer)**
 - **Colossians 3:15**, *“Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”*
- **Honor for enriching our lives (Vines)**
 - **Hebrews 13:15**, *“...let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.”*
 - **Philippians 4:6**, *“...in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”*

BEING THANKFUL IS A CHOICE

- **Psalms 107:8**, *“Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!”*
- **Ephesians 5:4**, *“...But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.”*

WE NEED TO THANK GOD...

- For His greatness
 - **Psalms 95:2**, *“Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.”*
- For all that He has done for us
 - **Psalms 107:21-22**, *Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.”*

WE NEED TO THANK GOD...

- For His providential care
 - **Matthew 6:25**, “Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?”
 - **Matthew 6:33-34**, “...seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.”

WE NEED TO THANK GOD...

- For His indescribable gift
 - **2 Corinthians 9:15**, “**Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.**”
 - **John 3:16**, “**he gave his only begotten Son**”
- For our freedom of sin by the gospel
 - **Romans 6:17**, “**God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.**”

WE NEED TO THANK GOD...

- For His perfect word
 - **2 Timothy 3:17**, “*That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.*”
- For Christ’s victory over sin & death
 - **1 Corinthians 15:17**, “*if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.*”
 - **1 Corinthians 15:57**, “*thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

ETC., ETC., ETC.

DEVELOP THANKFULNESS...

- Begins with the heart; not duty
 - **Colossians 3:15**, *“Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”*
 - **Psalm 86:12**, *“I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart; and I will glorify thy name for evermore.”*
- By giving attention to God’s blessings
 - **Ephesians 5:20**, *“Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

DEVELOP THANKFULNESS...

- By being thankful to others
 - **Romans 16:3-4**, “*Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus: Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.*”
- By being thankful in every situation
 - (Good & Bad)
 - **1 Thessalonians 5:18**, “*In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*”

DEVELOP THANKFULNESS...

- When unpleasant things occur
 - **1 Peter 5:7**, “*the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ*”
- By doing what is right
 - **Philippians 4:8**, “*whatsoever things are true... honest... just... pure... lovely... of good report; if there be any virtue... praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do”*

BLESSINGS OF THANKFULNESS

- Overcomes the sin of complaining
 - **Philippians 2:14**, “Do all things without murmurings and disputings”
 - **1 Peter 4:9**, “Use hospitality one to another without grudging.”
- Contributes to faithfulness
 - **Romans 1:21**, “*they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*”

BLESSINGS OF THANKFULNESS

- Leads to peace with God
 - **Philippians 4:6-7**, *“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*
- Leads to great joy
 - **Philippians 4:4**, *“Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice.”*