

Thanksgiving vs. Thanks- living

1 Thessalonians 5:18



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*In everything give thanks; for this
is the will of God in Christ Jesus
for you.*



NUMBER OF TIMES THANKFULNESS IS USED IN THE BIBLE:

Praise = 53 times

Give thanks = 32 times

Thank = 5 times

Thanksgiving = 2 times

Thankful = 1 time



Luke 17:12-19

- Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” So when He saw them, He said to them, Go show yourselves to the priests.” And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, **giving Him thanks.**



Luke 17:12-19

He was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, “ Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?”

And He said unto him, “Arise, go your way, Your faith has made you well.”



Being thankful is a learned behavior.

God not only deserves our thanks, He also desires them.

God wants us to continually thank Him.

God wants us to live a life of thankfulness.



Ephesians 5:19-20

Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, *giving thanks always* for all things to God the Father...



Giving thanks is to be continual and not contingent, in spite of our circumstances it is to be ongoing- not just because things are going well.



Three reasons why our thanksgiving must be continual
and not contingent

1. *Because the world is watching and listening*



Acts 16:22-26

Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded to be beaten with rods. And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailor to keep them securely. Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.



Acts 16:22-26

But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.



I Peter 2:12

Having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.



Matthew 5:14

“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”



*We must offer continual thanks,
because Satan is watching and listening*



I Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.



3. *WE MUST OFFER CONTINUAL THANKS, BECAUSE
GOD IS WATCHING AND LISTENING*



2 Chronicles 16:9

“For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him...”



*THANKSGIVING OPENS THE
DOOR TO GOD'S POWER, WHICH OPENS
THE DOOR TO VICTORY*



Acts 16:25-26

But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.



Thanksgiving brings freedom

