

Thanksgiving Sunday ~ Sunday, October 12, 2025

“To God Be the Glory ~ Being Thankful”

1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 & Luke 17:11-19

Thanksgiving is about just that—being _____ and giving thanks. It’s a time to reflect on God’s many _____ to us.

“Giving thanks is not only a duty but a delight, for it is the recognition of God’s goodness and grace.” ~ J. C. Ryle

It involves _____, knowing what we’re thankful for, and intentionally taking the time to count our blessings, lest we take them for _____, or even worse, focus on what we don’t have, instead of what we do have.

It involves going _____ and being thankful for more than just external things like having food, a roof over our head, good health, and financial security.

It’s state of being—an _____ of the heart—that grows out of our relationship with Jesus and what He’s done for us.

Although God has blessed us with so much, none of those things can _____ to the ultimate gift that He’s given us in His Son, Jesus.

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)

Instead of what we _____, God gives us _____. He provides for our needs in the moment, He never abandons nor forsakes us, and He promises to love us even when the mountains and hills are crumbling around us. And so, we’re called to display an attitude of _____ in all we say and do.

Gratitude isn’t just an _____, it’s a decision, a _____, and, ultimately, an act of _____. Thankfulness glorifies God because it recognizes Him as the _____ of everything we have and everything we are.

Gratitude _____ the spotlight from us to God. And that’s what this day—that’s what Thanksgiving—is about: turning our hearts away from _____ and comparison, and back toward worship and _____.

“God is most gloried in us when we are most satisfied in him.” ~ John Piper

3 ELEMENTS OF GRATITUDE

#1. The _____ of Gratitude.

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:16–18)

Paul isn’t saying that we have to be thankful **for** all things—some things in life are deeply painful and not good in themselves. However, we are called to be thankful **in** all things because God is still _____, even when life isn’t.

Gratitude and being thankful isn’t _____, it isn’t saying things aren’t bad—it’s defiance, a holy _____.

God’s will is that we would live with _____ hearts. Not because God needs our thanks, not because everything’s going as we’d like, but because gratitude _____ us.

Thankfulness is one of the most powerful spiritual disciplines because it resets, reboots, and reorients our _____. To put it another way: ingratitude _____ our world, thanksgiving _____ it. Complaining makes God seem small, gratitude _____ Him.

The more we breathe in gratitude, the more _____ fills our soul. That’s why worship is filled with thanksgiving—because we come alive when we _____ who God is and what He’s done for us.

Thanksgiving isn’t an annual event, it’s a _____.

Gratitude in the Christian life, isn’t dependent on _____, it’s rooted in Christ Himself.

How often do you display an attitude of gratitude?

The _____ of Gratitude.

“No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks.” ~ St. Ambrose

Sometimes we can take our blessings and the people in our lives for _____. And sometimes we can take God for granted too, and instead of living lives marked by gratitude and thanksgiving, we can live lives of _____ and unthankfulness.

This is one of the quickest and _____ miracles in the Gospels, but also one of the most _____.

It’s not that Jesus needs our thanks, however, He delights in a heart that recognizes _____ when it comes.

There's a difference between being healed on the outside and being made _____ on the inside. Nine were cured physically of leprosy, but only one was cured _____ of forgetfulness.

3 LESSONS FROM THE LEPER'S RESPONSE

- **Gratitude begins with _____.**

Gratitude starts when we open our eyes to what God has _____.

That's often how ingratitude creeps in, not through outright rebellion, but through _____. Life gets busy, and blessings pile up unnoticed. However, gratitude requires _____.

- **Gratitude leads to _____.**

When the healed man returned, he didn't just say "thanks" as if Jesus had passed him the salt. He fell at His feet, shouting _____.

True thanksgiving always lifts our eyes from the gift to the _____. It moves us from polite _____ to heartfelt _____.

Worship that flows from gratitude is never _____. It's the spontaneous overflow of a heart that knows it has received more than it _____.

- **Gratitude deepens _____.**

His faith, expressed through thanksgiving, completed what began with _____. Gratitude strengthens faith because it keeps _____ alive.

That's why thanksgiving is so central to _____. It's not just about the past, it's about preparing the heart for what's ahead.

Gratitude, at its core, is remembering the _____. And that's what worship is all about: remembering who God is and what He's done. When we remember, we _____. When we forget, we _____.

How often do you take the time to stop, count your blessings, and give thanks to God?

#3. The _____ of Gratitude.

Thanksgiving _____ God. It declares publicly what God has done privately. Gratitude turns personal blessing into public _____.

For those who know the living God, every breath of gratitude becomes a _____ of faith, a declaration that God is real, present, and good. Gratitude glorifies God because it shifts the _____ of the story. It reminds us that life isn't about our _____, but about His _____.

3 WAYS GRATITUDE GLORIFIES GOD

- **Gratitude glorifies God by _____ His grace.**

To thank God is to acknowledge _____, that every good thing is from His hand. That's why gratitude and _____ always walk together. Proud hearts don't thank easily. They assume they _____ what they've received, but the humble heart recognizes grace and responds in _____.

God is glorified when we give thanks, not because He needs the _____, but because thanksgiving reveals the _____ about who He is and who we are.

- **Gratitude glorifies God by _____ our hearts.**

Thankfulness doesn't just change our _____, it changes our _____. It's like a spiritual lens cleaner, it clears away the smudges of cynicism, _____, and comparison so that we can see God's goodness more _____.

The more we thank Him, the more aware we become of His _____. And the more aware we are of His presence, the more _____ we find to give thanks.

Gratitude is the soil in which _____ grows. And joy is what gives glory to God because a joyful Christian is a living _____ that God satisfies the soul.

- **Gratitude glorifies God by _____ our witness.**

One of the most powerful ways we can bear witness in the world today is through _____ living. We live in a culture that thrives on _____, where outrage, envy, and entitlement seem to be the default settings of the heart. And so, a thankful person _____.

When we give thanks in all _____, we show the world that our hope doesn't rest on comfort or success, but on _____.

**How do you seek to glorify God through thanksgiving I your everyday life?
What is your witness to the world?**

"The duty of gratitude is one of the most solemn and sacred obligations of the Christian life." ` Charles Spurgeon



On this Thanksgiving Sunday, the question before us is simple but searching:

Will you be the one who returns?