

AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

1st Thessalonians 5:16-19 Rejoice evermore. 17 Pray without ceasing. 18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. 19 Quench not the Spirit.

I. Common Courtesy

A. Disappearing from the World

1. Please and Thank you

B. Thanksgiving Forgotten

1. Radios start playing Christmas music in November
2. Black Friday Adds go up and are everywhere
3. People seem to just gloss over Thanksgiving

C. God is like us

1. We are made in the image of God
2. God is like us
3. I believe that God desires some of the same things that we do
4. I believe that God wants us to say Thank you

Psalms 100:1-5 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. 2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. 3 Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. 5 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

5. God desires for us to praise Him and to give Him thanks

II. Giving Thanks in Trouble

A. Jonah

1. Rebellious
2. In the belly of the fish

Jonah 2:9-10 But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD. 10 And the LORD spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.

3. Gave thanks and was delivered
4. You're deliverance might be waiting on your thankfulness

III. Giving thanks in need

Matthew 15:32-38 Then Jesus called his disciples unto him, and said, I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way. 33 And his disciples say unto him, Whence should we have so much bread in the wilderness, as to fill so great a multitude? 34 And Jesus saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? And they said, Seven, and a few little fishes. 35 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. 36 And he took the seven loaves and the fishes, and gave thanks, and brake them, and gave to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. 37 And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets full. 38 And they that did eat were four thousand men, beside women and children.

A. Jesus

1. Sees a hungry crowd
2. Wants to feed the people
3. Is given a few loaves and few fishes
4. Shows thanks for what He has been given
5. The thanks gets rewarded

a) *The whole crowd is able to eat*

IV. Giving thanks in sickness

Luke 17:12-19 And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: 13 And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. 14 And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go show yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. 15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, 16 And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. 17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? 18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. 19 And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

A. Ten Lepers

1. Cried out for healing

a) *Jesus told them to go show themselves to the priests*

b) *He was basically telling them that they were already healed*

(1) They had no evidence of it – yet – that is faith

2. As they went on their way they were healed

3. One turned back to give thanks

4. He was made whole

V. Giving thanks in salvation

Luke 22:17-19 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: 18 For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. 19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

A. Communion

1. The cup – before drinking He gave thanks

2. The bread – before eating He gave thanks
3. This same thought of thanks is continued in 1st Corinthians 11
 - a) *How do we get the Holy Ghost?*
 - b) *Through believing that God has forgiven our sins*
 - c) *Then by giving thanks and praising Him*

VI. Giving thanks in persecution

1st Corinthians 15:57 **But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

A. Rapture

1. Persecution is happening to the church
2. They have not been delivered from it
3. Paul talks about the rapture / or the death of the saints
4. He says to give thanks for the victory
 - a) *They do not have the victory yet, but they can be thankful for what they know that they will receive.*