

With Thanksgiving

“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6).

I had planned on posting something else but just couldn't get peace about it. We don't talk ahead of time to see what the other is going say...God is drawing us a central truth He is calling us to walk in. Today's message is about thankfulness for God's goodness. His goodness towards us can be appreciated or under appreciated.

Do you hear that? His goodness can be appreciated or under appreciated. So we ask you, which one are you? Paul is warning us to use caution in life and being thankful is an important part of life. Paul's life was one that was accentuated by thanksgiving and one that displayed a constant outpouring of gratitude towards God. I think we all need a reminder today and not just because Thanksgiving is coming!

We should thank Him because He is good and His incredible love for us endures forever. For this alone, we should diligently give to thanks to HIM daily. Somehow, I think many have forgotten how to be thankful. We don't take time to thank each other, let alone thanking God. We get busy with life and forget to take time to thank Him for His goodness towards us.

Philippians 4:6 is not just cautioning us, but also instructing us. We can all agree that a Spirit of entitlement has seized our world. The Word is clear, we are called to separate ourselves from the things of this world.

“When they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened” (Romans 1:21)

Did you know the more ungrateful we are, the less we give thanks, and the more like the world we become? When was the last time you said thank you to God or to another person? Thankfulness and gratitude all have to do with our relationship with God and go hand in hand.

Paul taught about gratitude continually. This the same Paul that wrote 13 of 27 books of the NT. The same Paul who had to receive Jesus Christ as his Savior by faith, just like we did. The same man who suffered repeatedly at the hands of others. The same man who was jailed, flogged, shipwrecked and beaten understood what it was like in times of plenty or times of lack.

Being thankful for suffering seems to make no sense, yet Paul was a man who was thankful in all things, “In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you” (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

God should be thanked for HIS continual presence and availability to us. It is all we can give him, and the least we can give. Compared to HIM there is nothing as GOOD to us as HIM.

The Word provides a full list of large reasons to be thankful or grateful. Overall many of the not reasons have nothing to do with things or with possessions. The truth is, we owe HIM everything and therefore, we should act like it. The people around you will want to know why you don't grumble and complain the way everyone else does. The apostle Paul was amazing. He was a man who suffered extreme hardship yet he was able to remain thankful. He was able to see life from God's perspective.

If you're going through a really hard time, these words may sound ridiculous or even frustrating. His goal is to do what is best for you, not what's comfortable, convenient, and enjoyable. He knows exactly what you're going through, loves you unconditionally, and understands you perfectly. When you thank Him in tough times, He gets bigger, and the circumstances become smaller.

The more we thank Him, the more we flow with deep assurance that all God's purposes are good and He's in complete control of every situation. Being thankful helps us acknowledge that God's will is best. By thanking Him we take giant steps toward being able to follow Christ's example.

Have a great day!!!
Thanks (grin) for stopping by.

Listen to Lindell Cooley as he sings Thanks to the Lord!!!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1NFuCG-omIE>

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