

The winning attitude – gratitude

Thanksgiving 2022

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SERMON DESCRIPTION FOR ONLINE

Giving thanks is the secret sauce of communicating with God.

The attitude of gratitude should not be something that we simply do but rather a lifestyle, a culture, and way of life. Thankful people are happy people and healthy people and prospering people.

GREETING

Good morning, I want to welcome you and thank you for being here this morning. My name is Ps Tony Soldano – lead pastor . I welcome those may be watch online and a special welcome to those who are new.

SERMON QUESTIONS & OBJECTIVES

1. What do they need to know?
 - a. It is imperative that we have a lifestyle of giving of thanks – it is the culture of the kingdom
2. Why do they need to know it?
 - a. God expects his children to be thankful and have an attitude of gratitude
3. How should we apply it?
 - a. The giving of thanks is required daily and continually

OPENING LINE

Be thankful in all things and give thanks to the Father through Jesus.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SERMON

Thanksgiving : gratitude directed towards God

The giving of thanks is a theme that runs from the entire Bible starting from the book of Genesis all the way to the book of revelation. David emphasizes this particularly through the book of Psalms and the apostle Paul carries it through into the New Testament:

- Thanksgiving was central to OT worship - 1 Chron 16:4 He appointed some of the Levites as ministers before the ark of the LORD, even to celebrate and to thank and praise the LORD God of Israel: NASU
- Thanksgiving is a natural element of Christian worship – all the Pauline letters start with a thanksgiving except for Galatians

CENTRAL TRUTH

Thanks, is something that we GIVE to God, it expresses our deep appreciation for all that God provides and acknowledgement of what He has done.

READING – MAIN PASSAGE

In the Gospels we read that Jesus gave thanks before he fed the multitude and before the last supper:

Feeding the Multitude

Mat 14:19 Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes.

The Cup and Bread

Mat 26:27 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you.

1 Cor 15:57-58 But **thanks be to God**, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

MAIN POINTS

1. It is our duty and responsibility as God's children – it is the culture of the Kingdom
2. It is the fruit of our lips and the action of our heart towards God
3. It should be your “modus operandi” - your way of life

1. Give thanks daily - – it is a continual act of worship – it should be your modus operandi your way of life

- a. Seven Psalms begin with GIVE thanks: The seven psalms that start with thanks – one for each day of the week:

- i. Psalms 75:1 We give thanks to you, o god, we give thanks! For your wondrous works declare that your name is near.

- ii. Psalms 92:1 It is good to give thanks to the lord, and to sing praises to your name, o most high;

- iii. Psalms 105:1 Oh, give thanks to the lord! Call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

- iv. 106:1

- v. Praise the lord! Oh, give thanks to the lord, for he is good! For his mercy endures forever.

- vi. Psalms 107:1 Oh, give thanks to the lord, for he is good! For his mercy endures forever.

- vii. Psalms 118:1 Oh, give thanks to the lord, for he is good! For his mercy endures forever.

- viii. Psalms 136:1 oh, give thanks to the lord, for he is good! For his mercy endures forever.

- b. King David assigned ministry responsibilities to people solely to give thanks
 - i. Thanksgiving is a command within the old testament order of worship and way of life
 - ii. Thanksgiving is a theme that runs through the entire book of psalms
 - iii. Entire feast within the Jewish calendar and order of worship was solely dedicated to giving thanks to God

c. **Bible Facts about thanksgiving**

i. The word thanks has many forms within the Bible and is translated in various ways - please consider:

- “Thanks” is found 75 times in the Bible
- “Thank” – 25 times
- “Thankful” – 3 times
- “Thankfulness – 1 time
- Grateful – 1 time

2. Give thanks despite the circumstances –

- a. **Apostle Paul encourages the believers to give God thanks in everything but not necessarily for everything. He indicates that this is the word of God concerning them in Christ Jesus.**
- b. **1 Thess 5:16-18 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.**
- c. **Eph 5:19-20 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,**
 - i. The follower of Christ is instructed to give thanks in absolutely everything this means that circumstances do not dictate whether we give God thanks
 1. Considering the worst of situation that could always be worse
 2. Jesus pointed out that nine out of the 10 lepers refused to return and give thanks and glorify God for being healed

3. Give thanks in every detail of your life

- a. The apostle Paul opens every one of his letters with the giving of thanks except for the book of Galatians
- b. **Col 3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.**
 - i. The giving of thanks impacts your mental well-being and nourishes your soul
 1. Giving thanks should start with a great attitude, but in the process of giving thanks a poor attitude can be turned around and demeanor changed
 2. It has the ability to evict a bad attitude and selfish desires
 3. It redirects our attitude and mindset in the right direction
 4. It acknowledges that God has helped us and has operated within our lives, after all, he is good even to the unthankful

QUOTES & STICKY STATEMENTS

“Sincere words are directed to God on the arms of heartfelt affection and gratitude”

“Thankful people are happy people, but happy people are not necessarily thankful”

People will remember you because you are thankful

Thankful people are recorded in heaven

Thankful people operate in the culture of the kingdom of God

When we murmur and complain, we expressed to God that we are not thankful

SERMON CONCLUSION

Heb 13:15 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

- Giving thanks – prayer and praise are all closely connected - (Col 1:3, Eph 1:16)

THE CALL TO ACTION

In everything you do today give thanks, be thankful and thank him in advance for all things

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Consider the various/practical ways that you can give thanks to God.
2. Why did King David appoint people solely for the purpose of giving thanks?
3. Why was God so irritated with the Isn't that murmured and complained in the dessert?
4. Describe how the apostle Paul also gave thanks for relationships in his life, who was he speaking about?
5. Describe the connection between Thanksgiving, prayer, and giving praise, look for scriptures that revealed these spiritual elements.
6. What are some of the health benefits of giving of thanks particularly for the mind the soul and the heart. Find additional scriptures to support this concept.
7. What was gods response to the Israelites and their murmuring and complaining?
8. Study the story of Jesus healing of the 10 lepers what was his response to 90% being unthankful and what was the benefit to the one who came back?