

“Count Your Blessing and Be Thankful”

Psalm 100:1-5

1. Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands!
2. Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.
3. Know that the Lord, He is God; It is He who has 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 to Him, and bless His name.
5. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations.

Being thankful is

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Why are we not thankful every day?

1.

1 Timothy 6:17
¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

2.

Philippians 2:14-15
¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

3.

2 John 1:8
⁸ Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward.
“We worship our work, work at our play and play at our worship.” “If you have nothing to be thankful for then make up your mind that there is something wrong with you.”

Ephesians 5:3-4

³ But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; ⁴ neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

How can I be thankful every day of my life?

1.

James 1:16-17
¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. ¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

2.

Philippians 4:6
⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

3.

Philippians 1:3
³ I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,
Acts 27:35 – Privately and Publicly
³⁵ And when he had said these things, he took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all; and when he had broken it he began to eat.

4.

Matthew 25:40
⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'
Hebrews 12:28
²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.

5.

2 Corinthians 9:11-12
¹¹ while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God. ¹² For the administration of this service not only supplies the needs of the saints, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to God.

Count It All Joy

In James 1:2-4, James writes, "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing (NKJV)." James tells us to consider it all joy when troubles come in life. But, this is easier said than done.

No one is immune from trials, in your lifetime they will come. They will make you stronger or they will cause you to fall. They will test your faith.

Overcoming Trials

"Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy." (1 Peter 4:12-13)

Be dependent on the Lord for once they are over you will be a much better person not just to yourself but to those who surround you.

Why should we be joyful?

James shows the reason we should face trials with joy is that our faith will be strengthened in the process. First, he says it will build patience. Second, enduring trials bring maturity. When Christians go through various trials and keep their faith in Christ, they become refined like gold through the fire.

Be Thankful

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire.

If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times. During those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitations, because they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge, because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you're tired and weary, because it means you've made a difference.

It's easy to be thankful for the good things. A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks.

Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive. Find a way to be thankful for your troubles, and they can become your blessings.

~Author Unknown



Sunday 22 December 2013
PM—Sermon

14 " You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 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. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. **Mathew 5:14-15**

Westside Church of Christ

158 Willow Avenue
Warner Robins, GA 31093
(478) 923-6755

Give diligence to present thyself approved unto God, a workman not be ashamed, handling aright the word of truth. (2 Tim. 2:15)

Let all things be done decently and in order. (1 Cor. 14:40)

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