

WAYS TO SHOW OUR THANKSGIVING-PT 2
VARIOUS SCRIPTURE

Introduction

We began last week to look at some ways to show our **THANKSGIVING** to the **LORD** for what **HE** has done for us!

Tonight we plan to have our annual **THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE SERVICE** to give you an opportunity to openly express your **THANKSGIVING** and **PRAISE** to the **LORD** for **HIS** goodness!

If there is anyone that should show and express **GRATITUDE TO GOD** for the **BLESSINGS HE GIVES**, it is the **BELIEVER IN CHRIST!**

Our **GRATITUDE to GOD** should be something that is evident in our lives! We should be willing to let our **GRATITUDE** show so that others, and especially **GOD**, can see our **GRATITUDE** for **HIM!** (Which, by the way, is one of the ways that we can really **GLORIFY GOD** in and through our life!)

So last week we began to look at ways to let our THANKSGIVING show!

I. WE SHOULD LET OUR THANKSGIVING SHOW THROUGH OUR WORSHIP! (Luke 17:11-19)

II. WE SHOULD LET OUR THANKSGIVING SHOW THROUGH OUR WITNESS. (Luke 8:26-40)

III. WE SHOULD LET OUR THANKSGIVING SHOW THROUGH OUR WORKS. (ACTS 16:14-15)

What happened to **LYDIA** here? She and her household came to know **CHRIST** through the witness of **PAUL** and they were **BAPTIZED!**

We can see here that she was **GRATEFUL** for **PAUL** having shared **CHRIST** with her! She **SHOWED** her **GRATITUDE** by her **WORKS**—in opening up her home to these **PAUL** and those who were traveling with him!

As I said last week, **WHEN SOMEONE DOES SOMETHING FOR US**, we often like to **SHOW OUR APPRECIATION** by reciprocating and **DOING SOMETHING** for them!

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Think about what **WONDERFUL** things **GOD** has done for us by having **GIVEN** unto us **ETERNAL LIFE** through **JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD!**

Romans 6:23—“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

One way we can show our **APPRECIATION** is by the **WORKS THAT WE DO FOR HIM!**

Scripture says that GOD saved us UNTO GOOD WORKS!

Ephesians 2:10—“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”

Matthew 5:16—“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

SCRIPTURE also tells us that we are to be careful to **MAINTAIN GOOD WORKS!**

Titus 3:8—“This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.”

Out of **APPRECIATION** for what **GOD** has done for us we are **TO DO AND MAINTAIN GOOD WORKS:** How do we do that?

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Sometimes it might be by LISTENING carefully to those who need someone to just LISTEN to them!

Oh we know that they need to cry out to the **LORD** but understand that they may not know how to go about that so they cry out to us just longing for a **LISTENING EAR** to pour out their **HEART!**

And we who belong to the **LORD** have the **LORD** living in us, right?! And the **LORD** living in us can listen to them and we can pray to the **LORD** on their behalf! And we can ask the **LORD** for **HIS WISDOM** to **HELP** us be a **HELP** to them in their time of need!

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Think of the many times in **SCRIPTURE** when the **LORD LISTENED** to and heard the **SUPPLICATION** of **HIS PEOPLE!**

James 1:19– “Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:”

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Sometimes it might be by HELPING someone who is struggling under a heavy load BEAR THEIR BURDEN!

Galatians 6:2– “Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”

Some folks need someone to be a **NEIGHBOR** to them!
JESUS said we are to **LOVE** our **NEIGHBOR** as ourselves!
(In Luke 10:27-37 JESUS told The Parable Of The Good Samaritan to answer the question “Who is my NEIGHBOR.” The answer is, who needs you to be a NEIGHBOR to them?)

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Sometimes it might be by SHARING materially with those in need who are less fortunate than us! (2 Corinthians 8:1-5)

Acts 20:35– “I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

I’m talking about **helping others who need a helping hand** or **doing something for someone who can no longer do for themselves!**
(Not supporting the lazy, but those who can’t do for themselves!)

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Sometimes it might be by giving encouragement or comfort to those who need it, especially those who might be going through the same things or similar things to what the LORD brought us through! (2 Corinthians 1:3-5)

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Sometimes it might be by giving to the LORD of our TIME, our TALENTS and our TREASURE so that the work of the LORD can be accomplished and HE is GLORIFIED in the CHURCH!

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Galatians 6:10– “As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.”

Ephesians 3:14-21

WE SHOULD LET OUR THANKSGIVING SHOW THROUGH OUR WORSHIP. . . OUR WITNESS. . . OUR WORKS. . .

IV. WE SHOULD LET OUR THANKSGIVING SHOW THROUGH OUR WALK.

As BELIEVERS IN CHRIST, we need to remember that GOD has CALLED us ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE! (Romans 8:28)

A. We Are To Walk Worthy Of The Vocation Wherewith We Are Called! (Ephesians 4:1-3)

Conduct that is “*becoming*” of someone who is in Christ!

Colossians 1:10– “That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;”

1 Thessalonians 2:12– “That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.

B. We Are To Walk By Faith Not By Sight! (2 Corinthians 5:7) Hebrews 11:6– “But without faith it is impossible to please Him...”

C. We Are To Walk In The Spirit, Not In The Flesh! Romans 8:4– “That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”

Galatians 5:16– “This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.” 5:25– “If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”

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- D. We Are To Walk In Love!**
Ephesians 5:22—“**And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.**
- E. We Are To Walk Honestly!**
Romans 13:13— “**Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.**”
- honestly = decently or becomingly...properly or respectably!*
- Ephesians 5:8*—“**For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:**”
- F. We Are To Walk Circumspectly!**
Ephesians 5:15—“**See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,**
- circumspectly = being watchful every way; taking heed; carefully, accurately, precisely, diligently.*
- G. We Are To Walk Like Christ!**
1 John 2:6— “**He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.**”

Out of **GRATITUDE** for what **GOD** has done for you, let me challenge you to live as the **LORD** has challenged all of us to live!

1 Peter 1:15–16—“**15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.**”

God, who has called us is holy! He wants us to be holy in our walk!

How can we do this? By dying to self and its desires and letting Christ live His life through us!

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Galatians 2:20—“**I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.**”

Conclusion

Let me ask in closing, **BELIEVERS** are you **GRATEFUL** for what **GOD** has done for you? If so, are you letting it show?

THROUGH YOUR WORSHIP
THROUGH YOUR WITNESS
THROUGH YOUR WORKS
THROUGH YOUR WALK

If you are here without **CHRIST** today, you need to understand that while you were a sinner, **CHRIST** died in your place and offers you the **FREE GIFT** of **ETERNAL LIFE** through **FAITH** in what **HE** has done for you.

Don't reject his **FREE GIFT!** To reject the **GENEROSITY** of someone who has sacrificed so greatly to help you is the height of **INGRATITUDE!**

Don't be an **INGRATE!** Come to **HIM** today!