

Psalms, Hymns and Prayers of Thanksgiving

**“Not thankful that you have them
But rather thankful that God would deem to give them.”**

Rev. John S. Mahon

Thanksgiving is the worship of God in reference to what He has done for man. Having said this there are many misconceptions concerning Thanksgiving. For instance, our emphasis in Thanksgiving is not in what we get but in that God would deem to give it. An example of this is the way Eleanor trained our children to greet me when I would come home from a speaking engagement. She would have them all ready to meet me. They would be dressed and excited. They would all run to greet me, hug me and give me kisses and express their happiness at my being home. I never doubted their sincerity but I also knew that El had worked hard on prepping them. Also, woe be the child that asked what daddy had brought them. Not woe from me, but woe from Eleanor. It was enough that daddy was home safely and should they talk about a gift they would receive quick discipline from El. Soon though the suitcase would be opened and the gifts distributed. Again, woe to the child who compared their gift with that of their sibling, who cried or bickered – again they would be disciplined. It was not the gift but rather the fact that daddy would think of them that was important. Also, they should be happy in the blessings bestowed on their brother or sister and rejoicing in that as well. (We never succumbed to the current trend on a birthday or award celebration of giving gifts to all the children. Each child should be happy and willing to rejoice and celebrate the good fortune of their sibling without the need of getting gifts themselves.) These are all good lessons in our relationship with our heavenly Father. It should be enough for us that He has adopted us into His family and not left us to spend an eternity in Hell, it should be enough that He bestows any gift upon us at all, it is enough that He loves us and blesses us. We should not be asking for “better” and we should not be casting an envious eye at our brothers and sisters in Christ. Rather we should be Thankful. Psalms 140:13 makes this clear to us when God the Holy Spirit teaches us, **“Surely the righteous will give thanks to Your name; The upright will dwell in Your presence.”** It is the righteous who give thanks to God. Thanksgiving is an indication of maturity and it is a ministry to God to which we should all aspire.

One verse which always confused me early in my Christian life was 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 **“pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”** How can you pray without ceasing and still go about your daily life and how can you be thankful for things which are difficult, disappointing or even hurtful? The spiritual discipline of Thanksgiving is the key to both questions. First it is easy to go through life praying when you are diligent to thank God for every blessing, privilege or gift bestowed by Him. James 1:17 **“Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.”** If you sincerely believe that every good thing that happens to you throughout the day is from God then you will be constantly offering up to God short prayers, expressions of thanksgiving. As for the difficulties in life, God the Holy Spirit

reminds us in Psalms 119:71 ***“It is good for me that I was afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes.”*** What I was not taking into consideration was that God considered it a blessing for me to go through trials and disappointments, it was for my well being and I should be thankful. We would all agree that it is an extremely mature and exceptional child, who after receiving the first round of vaccinations would say through his tears, “Thank you daddy for protecting me from polio and all the other diseases. Thank you for spending your money and your time to do this. It hurt but I know you only do for me what is good and I am so thankful to you, even though I do not understand it all, I trust you.” We should all aspire to that level of maturity in our relationship with our heavenly father. All too often though, through every trial, rather than the maturity of thanksgiving we are still throwing the childish temper tantrums characterized by the every whining “Why!”.

This is not a study on suffering and I am sure that I do not need to remind the reader of the Biblical blessings associated with suffering – riches in heaven (James 1:12); purity of faith (I Peter 1:6 & 7); the encouragement of others / example for others (James 5:10 & 11); vindication of our faith before God and the angels (Job 1 & 2); sharing in the sufferings of Christ (I Peter 4:12); Character Transformation (Romans 5:1 – 5) – these and more reasons are given in the Scripture. We experience difficulties and trails because we have a loving and good Father who desires only our good that we might share in His holiness (Hebrews 12:10). As a result we can respond with thanksgiving during times of trial. The discipline of medicine is not always pleasant but is good and we are thankful to the surgeon no matter our post treatment pain for the good that results. How much more should we be thankful to God irrespective of the seeming unpleasantness of our experience for the good which He will bring about.

It is a selfish child indeed who can only be thankful in the immediate. It is a selfish spouse indeed who can only be thankful in the immediate and it is a selfish Christian indeed who is only thankful in the immediate. We can all be thankful for “the big picture” or our relationship with God no matter how unpleasant the immediate may seem. No matter how unpleasant the immediate may seem we can still be thankful for the blessings upon our biological and spiritual family. No matter how unpleasant the immediate may seem we can still be thankful for the spiritual provisions of God – the Word, Prayer and Fellowship. No matter how unpleasant the immediate may seem we can still be thankful for our inclusion in the ministry of evangelism, discipleship and service in the church. It is a selfish child of God indeed who can only be thankful on his or her terms based on their immediate emotions and sensations.

It will be good as well for us to reflect, what does it mean when someone ceases to say, “Thank You”? It may be pride and vanity. It may be a rift in the relationship. It may be blindness to the good being done to or for them, no matter, when someone ceases to say Thank You, the relationship is in deep trouble. Now in our relationship with God there is absolutely no reason at all for God to say Thank You to us. Thus when thanksgiving is not a center piece of our prayer life the burden of responsibility lies at our feet.

What kind of relationship would you have with your spouse, your parents, your church – if your conversation was characterized by a “do list”? What kind of relationship do you think you can have with God if the same is true? The reverse is also true, what kind of relationship would you have with your spouse, your family, your church if you took time periodically throughout the day to text them a note of thanks for some thoughtful thing they did, had done in the past or that reflected your recognition of their character?

Many parents wonder why their children are not more thankful. Generally it is for one or two reasons – either the children were never taught to be thankful by their parents or the parents have so spoiled the children by giving into their every wish that the child has no reason to be thankful. God the Father is neither negligent nor foolish. If we are not thankful as we should be then He has a School of Thanksgiving to which He will send us for our own good. This School of Thanksgiving is described in Deuteronomy 28:47-48 ***“ Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and a glad heart, for the abundance of all things; therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in the lack of all things; and He will put an iron yoke on your neck until He has destroyed you.”*** We have though another choice, the school of the Word of God which instructs us, Colossians 3:16 “Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” How much better to learn thankfulness through the Word of God, through mutual edification and through worship than through the more difficult school of compare and contrast.

It is my hope that these Daily Quiet Times Alone with God will not only school you in the discipline of Thankfulness but through prayer and meditation upon God’s holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word you will be sanctified and transformed into a thankful person in your relationship with God. It is important for a child to be taught to say “Thank you”. It is important for children to be made to write Thank You Notes to relatives and friends for gifts. It is important for children to be taught these things and when they do not want to do them to be disciplined. It is the wise child through that as he matures no longer needs to be made to do these things but does them freely and joyfully because out of love he does the right thing, he expresses genuine thanks. It is important for us to begin down the road of the spiritual discipline of Thankful Prayers. It is more important thought that we are transformed into Thankful Christians who do not see it as a discipline but rather as a joy. May you, by these Daily Quiet Times Alone With God, first be transformed into a thankful Disciple and then may they be a blessing to you in expressing this Thankful heart to God throughout your life.

Luke 17:15-18 “ Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine — where are they? ” Was no one found who returned to give

glory to God, except this foreigner?"

By His Mercy,
II Corinthians 4:1
Rev. John S. Mahon
Grace Community Int.

08.05.09 Nairobi, Kenya

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Colossians 3:15 & 16

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Samuel 22:47 - 51

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Chronicles 16:1 – 9, 34 - 41; 23: 25 – 31

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Chronicles 29:1 – 31

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 7:17

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 9 1 & 2

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 18:48 - 50

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 26:1 – 7

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I

can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 28:1 – 7

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 30:1 – 12

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 33:1 - 4

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 42:1 – 5

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 50:23

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 52:1 – 9

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 54:1 - 6

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 56:10 – 13

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 57:1 - 11

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 69:30 & 31

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 79:1 – 13

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 86:1 – 13

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 92:1 - 5

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 95:1 – 3

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 97: 1 - 12

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 100:1 – 5

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 105:1 – 5

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 106:1 & 2, 47 & 48

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 107:1 – 43

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 108: 1 – 4

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 109:30 & 31

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 111:1 – 10

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 118:1 – 29

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 119:7 & 8, 62 – 64

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 136:1 – 26

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 138:1 – 8

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 139:1 – 18

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 140:13

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Psalm 147:1 – 7

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 15:32 – 39

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 26:26 – 30

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Luke 17:11 – 19

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 27:14 - 35

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Romans 1:8; I Corinthians 1:4 – 8

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Philippians 1:3

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Corinthians 9:6 – 11

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ephesians 5:18 - 20

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Philippians 4:6 & 7

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Colossians 4:1 – 4

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Thessalonians 2:13

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Worship and Thanksgiving

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Thessalonians 5:18; I Timothy 1:12 – 13

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Hebrews 13:15 & 16

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Revelation 11:15 - 19

What does this passage teach me about Thanksgiving? (Specifically for what are they being thankful?)

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

Appendix

Below are guides provided for you to expand your Thanksgiving prayers. Some of these are left for the individual to fill out. For instance Family, Home, Blessings will vary from person to person. Others though have been provided for you. For instance the incarnation of Christ – we should thank the Lord for His coming every day, not just at Christmas. Again, the Passion of Christ, the Lord is worthy to be thanked daily for His death, burial and resurrection, not just at Easter. There are several other additional areas from my prayer notebook which I have provided you in the hopes that you will daily include these in your prayers of thanksgiving.

For more free Daily Quiet Times Alone With God, aids in putting together a Prayer Notebook as well as messages and studies on this subject visit our website at HYPERLINK "<http://www.gciweb.org>" www.gciweb.org In addition Psalms and prayers from the Word of God have been provided for your edification. Last but not least great hymns of thanksgiving have been included.

May the Lord bless you in your prayers of thanksgiving

By His mercy,
II Corinthians 4:1
Rev. John S. Mahon
Grace Community Int.

Personal Reflection and Application: Before beginning use the space below to list those areas of thankfulness which were emphasized in your Daily Quiet Time Alone With God series on Worship and Thanksgiving...

Psalms, Hymns and Prayers of Thanksgiving

**Not thankful that you have them
but rather thankful that God would deem to give them.**

Psalms emphasizing Thanksgiving to aid you in your prayers...

9

92

105

107

111

116

118

136

138

II Samuel 22:1 – 25

II Samuel 22:26 – 51

I Chronicles 16:8 – 36

I Chronicles 29:10 – 19

Revelation 11:17, 18

Feel free to use the space below for additional Psalms and prayers from the Word of God...

For Meditation on Thankfulness...

(No Whining Zone)

John Fletcher of Madely “One time meeting him when he was very ill with a hectic fever... I said, ‘I am sorry to find you so ill’ Mr. Fletcher answered with great sweetness and energy. ‘Sorry, sir! Why are you sorry? It is the chastisement of my heavenly Father, and I rejoice in it. I love the rod of my God, and rejoice therein, as an expression of His love and affection towards me.’” (JC. Ryle *The Christian Leaders of the Last Century*; pg 388)

DEU 28:47, 48 "Because you did not serve the Lord your God with joy and a glad heart, for the abundance of all things; therefore you shall serve your enemies ...

Numbers 14:27 How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who are grumbling against Me? I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel, which they are making against Me.

Psalms 16:6 The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; indeed, my heritage is beautiful to me.

Psalms 50:23 "He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; And to him who orders his way aright I shall show the salvation of God."

Psalms 107:43 Who is wise? Let him give heed to these things; And consider the lovingkindnesses of the Lord.

Psalms 116:7 Return to your rest, O my soul, For the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

Psalms 136:26 Give thanks to the God of heaven, For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Psalms 138:1 (A Psalm of David.) I will give Thee thanks with all my heart; I will sing praises to Thee before the gods.

Psalms 140:13 Surely the righteous will give thanks to Thy name; The upright will dwell in Thy presence.

Luke 17:15 – 18 Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine-- where are they? "Was no one found who turned back to give glory to God, except this foreigner?"

Jesus I Am Resting

Jesus, I am resting, resting In the joy of what Thou art;
I am finding out the greatness of Thy loving heart:
Thou hast bid me gaze upon Thee, and Thy beauty fills my soul
For by Thy transforming power Thou hast made me whole

Refrain: Jesus, I am resting, resting,
In the joy of what Thou art;
I am finding out the greatness
Of Thy loving heart.

*O, how great Thy loving kindness, Vaster, broader than the sea!
O, how marvelous Thy goodness, Lavished all on me!
Yes, I rest in Thee, Belovèd, Know what wealth of grace is Thine,
Know Thy certainty of promise, And have made it mine.*

Simply trusting Thee Lord Jesus, I behold Thee as Thou art,
And Thy love, so pure so changeless, satisfies my heart;
Satisfies its deepest longings, meets supplies its every need,
Compasseth me round with blessings, Thine is love indeed

*Ever lift Thy face upon me as I work and wait for Thee;
Resting neath Thy smile, Lord Jesus, Earth's dark shadows flee,
Brightness of my Father's glory, sunshine of my Father's face,
Keep me ever trusting, resting, fill me with Thy grace.*

Jean Sophia Pigott *Born:* 1845, Ireland. *Died:* October 12, 1882, Leixlip, Lucan, County Kildare, Ireland. Facts about Jean Pigott are scarce. She did contribute some hymns to *Hymns of Consecration and Faith*, and in 1877, published *A Royal Service, and Other Poems*. This hymn was a favorite of missionary Hudson Taylor and he found solace in it during the boxer rebellion. In that time of chaos he could often be found singing it during his morning devotionals.

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace,
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, Mount of Thy redeeming love.

*Here I raise my Ebenezer that till now I've safely come,
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He to rescue me from danger Interposed His precious blood.*

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safety to arrive at home.
Prone to wander Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

Robert Robinson *Born:* September 27, 1735, Swaffham, Norfolk, England. *Died:* June 8, 1790, Showell Green, Warwickshire, England. Robinson's widowed

mother sent him at age 14 to London, to learn the trade of barber and hair dresser. However, his master found he enjoyed reading more than work. Converted to Christ at age 17, Robinson became a Methodist minister. He later moved to the Baptist church and pastored in Cambridge, England. He wrote a number of hymns, as well as on the subject of theology. His later life was evidently not an easy one, he was dismissed from several pastorates and was given to eccentricities and despondency.

Areas Of Daily Thanksgiving

Family – nuclear and extended (Aunt Mary and Uncle Jon so kind and loving)

Home and Dwelling

Friends

Health (No matter my immediate condition I am alive)

Finances

Ministry

Blessings and fruitful times that God in His sovereignty has taken me through

Psalm 107:31 “Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, and for His wonders to the sons of men!

Psalm 107:43 Who is wise? Let him give heed to these things; and consider the lovingkindness of the LORD.

Painful and harsh men, circumstances and times in the wilderness You have brought into my life to help, train , rebuke and yes redirect me to a new and greater way. I resent this even though I know in my heart of hearts that the only way I would have listened, and having listened been mature enough to take this new ministry was for the You, my Lord, to have used such painful and sorrowful events in bringing it about. (Navs to Church; Church to GCI)

Psalm 71:20 Thou, who hast shown me many troubles and distresses, Wilt revive me again, And wilt bring me up again from the depths of the earth.

Psalm 118:18 The Lord has disciplined me severely, But He has not given me over to death.

Hebrews 12:6 For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, And He scourges every son whom He receives. "

People

Genesis 50:20 And as for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.

Enemies

Rebukes & Corrections

Humiliations

Self-perceived lack of recognition

Genesis 40:14 & 23 Only keep me in mind when it goes well with you, and please do me a kindness by mentioning me to Pharaoh, and get me out of this house....Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.

Used for others success

Genesis 40:21-23 And he restored the chief cupbearer to his office, and he put the cup into Pharaoh's hand; but he hanged the chief baker, just as Joseph had interpreted to them. Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.

Injustices

Psalm 69:4 Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head; those who would destroy me are powerful, being wrongfully my enemies, what I did not steal, I then have to restore.

Circumstances

Psalm 119:71 It is good for me that I was afflicted, That I may learn Thy statutes.

Failures

Hardships

Pains & Sorrows

Sickness

Poverty

Refining fires

Self-perceived unmet needs

Psalm 73:15 If I had said, "I will speak thus," behold, I should have betrayed the generation of Thy children.

Times of Barrenness or Fruitlessness

HAB 3:17, 18 Though the fig tree should not blossom, And there be no fruit on the

vines, Though the yield of the olive should fail, And the fields produce no food, Though the flock should be cut off from the fold, And there be no cattle in the stalls, Yet I will exult in the Lord, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.

God the Son - Jesus'

Pre-existence
The emptying of Himself
Virgin birth
Earthly life and ministry
Voluntarily giving Himself up as a sacrifice
Suffering and shed blood
Substitutionary Death on the Cross
Burial
Resurrection
Ascension
Continuing ministry
Imminent return

God the Holy Spirit - Ministry of the Holy Spirit

Indwelling
Seal
Filling
Gifts
Calling
Graces
Power
Comfort

God the Father - Lord God (See Attributes)

Unity – Three yet One
Sovereign yet Loving Father

Word of God

Psalm 119:164 Seven times a day I praise Thee, because of Thy righteous ordinances.

Written
The Literal Word of God
Inspired
Eternal
Inerrant
Pure
Unbroken
Authoritative
Dynamic
Accomplishes its purposes
Alive, active
Creative Power

Empowers
Instructs
Judges
Powerful
Sanctifies
Spiritual
Spiritual Light
Spiritual Food
Tests
Sword of the Spirit

Prayer

Boldly approach
Without fear
Listen
Presence
Act
Power
Miracle
Refresh
Empower
Lead
Comfort
Calm

Those possessions You have allowed me.

The aging process or the strength of youth – whichever applies

Mercies – that which You withhold - you do not deal with me as my sins deserve

Graces – that which You bestow – that I do not receive merely what I have earned but rather I receive what I do not deserve in terms of Your blessings.

Happiness of my heart in all that You do, have done and the expectation of Your future acts. All the fun I've had in life.

Psalm 116:7 Return to your rest, O my soul, For the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

There Is A Redeemer

There is a Redeemer
Jesus God's own Son
Precious Lamb of God Messiah
Holy One

*Thank You O my Father
For giving us Your Son
And leaving us Your Spirit till
Your work on earth is done*

Jesus my Redeemer
Name above all names
Precious Lamb of God Messiah
Hope for sinners slain

*Thank You O my Father
For giving us Your Son
And leaving us Your Spirit till
Your work on earth is done*

When I stand in glory
I will see His face
There I'll serve my King forever
In that holy place

*Thank You O my Father
For giving us Your Son
And leaving us Your Spirit till
Your work on earth is done*

Keith Gordon Green ([HYPERLINK "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/October_21"](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/October_21) \o "October 21" October 21, 1953 – [HYPERLINK "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/July_28"](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/July_28) \o "July 28" July 28, 1982) was an [HYPERLINK "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States"](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States) \o "United States" American [HYPERLINK "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gospel_music"](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gospel_music) \o "Gospel music" gospel [HYPERLINK "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Singer"](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Singer) \o "Singer" singer, [HYPERLINK "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Songwriter"](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Songwriter) \o "Songwriter" songwriter, and [HYPERLINK "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pianist"](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pianist) \o "Pianist" pianist originally from [HYPERLINK "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheepshead_Bay%2C_Brooklyn"](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheepshead_Bay%2C_Brooklyn) \o "Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn" Sheepshead Bay, [HYPERLINK "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York"](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York) \o "New York" New York. His teen years were spent in dissipation as he was heavily involved in the rock music industry. After coming to Christ Green became known for his strong devotion to [HYPERLINK "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity"](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity) \o "Christianity" Christianity and his unwavering efforts to stir others to the same. Mr. Green died when his private plane crashed shortly after takeoff.

For The Beauty Of The Earth

For the beauty of the earth (Romans 1)
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies. (Psalms 139:13; Romans 5:8; I John 5:17)

Refrain

Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.

*For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above, (Clyde; Bose; Mom; Aunt Mable; Mitch)
For all gentle thoughts and mild.*

Refrain

For Thy Church, that evermore
Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love.

Refrain

*For the martyrs' crown of light,
For Thy prophets' eagle eye,
For Thy bold confessors' might,
For the lips of infancy.*

Refrain

For each perfect gift of Thine,
To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine,
Flowers of earth and buds of Heaven.

Refrain

O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!
Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me!
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of Thy love
Leading onward, leading homeward to Thy glorious rest above!

*O the deep, deep love of Jesus, spread His praise from shore to shore!
How He loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore!
How He watches o'er His loved ones, died to call them all His own;
How for them He intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne!*

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, love of every love the best!
'Tis an ocean full of blessing, 'tis a haven giving rest!
O the deep, deep love of Jesus, 'tis a heaven of heavens to me;
And it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to Thee!

Samuel Trevor Francis 1834-1925

Born: November 19, 1834, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, England.

Died: December 28, 1925, Groombridge Nursing Home, Worthing, Sussex, England.

A London merchant and artist's son, Francis published a number of hymns in religious newspapers and periodicals. He belonged to the Plymouth Brethren congregation in London, and served as an open air preacher.

My Jesus, I love Thee

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

*I love Thee because Thou has first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death,
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath;
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

*In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

William R. Featherston 1864; (Featherston was only 16 years old at the time)*Born:* July

23, 1846, Montreal, Quebec, Canada ;*Died:* May 20, 1873, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Little is known of Featherston, except that he belonged to the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Montreal (later renamed St. James Methodist Church, then St. James United Church).

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Folliot Sandford Pierpoint *Born:* October 7, 1835, Spa Villa, Bath, England. *Died:* March 10, 1917, Newport, Monmouthshire, England. Pierpoint graduated from Queen's College, Cambridge University, in 1857, and later taught classics at Somersetshire College. He later lived at Babbicombe, Devonshire, and elsewhere, and occasionally taught.