

*Developing A Life of Prayer*  
*EDGEMONT BIBLE CHURCH*  
*9/22 - /2021-2022*  
*“Contentment and Thanksgiving”*

*Ps 100:4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.*

*I. Jesus' Example of Thanksgiving - Jo 17:2*

*A. God's gifts to Jesus*

- 1. "as You have given Him authority over all flesh that He should give eternal life*
  - a. Over creation - He had made everything*
    - i. Jo 1:1-4 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.*
    - ii. Col 1:16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.*
  - b. Over His own life, death, and resurrection – Jo 10:18 "No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."*
  - c. Over the Church - Mt 16:18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.*
  - d. Over Judgment - Jo 5:22 "For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,*
- 2. to as many as You have given Him.*
  - a. Given before the foundation of the world*
    - i. Jo 17:24 "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.*
    - ii. Eph 1:4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,*
  - b. Paid for before the foundation of the world*
    - i. 1Pe 1:18-20 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was*

*foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you*

- ii. *Re 13:8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*
- c. *Written in the Book before the foundation of the world*
  - i. *Re 13:8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*
  - ii. *Re 17:8 "The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.*

## **B. Contentment - Understanding Position and Role**

### **1. Position**

- a. *Php 2:5-11 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*
- b. *Jo 13:3 Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;*

### **2. Role**

- a. *Jo 18:4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth, and said unto them, Whom seek ye?*
- b. *Jo 19:28 After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.*

### **3. How important is Contentment in Thanksgiving?**

- a. *Deals with belief in the Person and Provision of God*
  - i. *Mt 6:24-25 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?*
  - ii. *Mt 6:31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' "For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you*

*need all these things. "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.*

iii. *Heb 13:5 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."*

b. *It is a learned Practice*

i. *Lk Lu 3:14 Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, "And what shall we do?" So he said to them, "Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages."*

ii. *Php 4:11-12 Not that I speak in regard to need, for **I have learned** in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things **I have learned** both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.*

iii. *1Ti 6:6-8 Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.*

## *II. Why Wouldn't People be Thankful*

### *1. Ignorance*

a. *Not Knowing your Position - Unrealistic expectations of God*

i. *Ro 14:8-9 For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living.*

ii. *1Co 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.*

iii. *2Co 12:10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

b. *Not Knowing your Role*

i. *Ro 5:3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;*

ii. *Php 2:17 Yes, and if I am being poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.*

iii. *1Pe 3:14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. "And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled."*

iv. *3Jo 1:10 Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church.*

## *2. Unbelief*

- a. Ro 1:19-23 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man--and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.*
- b. Ro 2:4 Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?*

## *III. For What and Why Should we be Thankful*

### *1. Everything - 1Th 5:18*

- a. Who God Is – Rev 4:9; 7:12; 11:17*
- b. The Salvation that He has Provided -*
- c. The Process of Sanctification and What God is doing in your Life – Phil 4:6*
- d. The Grace that God gives for Daily Living – 2 Co 12:1-10*
- e. The People that God brings into your life - Eph 1:16; Col 1:3; 1Th 1:2*
- f. What God is doing in the lives of those around you - 2Co 9:11-12; 2Th 2:13*

### *2. The Benefits of Thanksgiving*

- a. A reminder of God's faithfulness, love, and grace- Col*
- b. A reminder of our position and role in God's plan - Ro 12:3*
- c. A help in humility so that we would receive more grace – Jas 4:6; 1Pet 5:5-6*