

# Having an Attitude of Gratitude!

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1 Thes 5:18 (NIV) <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

## 1. Be thankful IN everything – not FOR everything.

- **As Christians we ought to be most thankful**

Psalm 103:1-5 (NIV) <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. <sup>2</sup> Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits-- <sup>3</sup> who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, <sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, <sup>5</sup> who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

- **The Bible says that it is evil to be ungrateful.**

Rom 1:18-21 (NIV) <sup>18</sup> The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness,... <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

2 Tim 3:1-2 (NIV) <sup>1</sup> But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. <sup>2</sup> People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,

### **Are you grateful or are you more apt to complain?**

Ps 34:1 (NIV) <sup>1</sup> I will extol [bless] the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

**We need a proper perspective in dealing with life's problems.**

**"GRATITUDE"** is from the same root word as the word **"GRACE."**

**"THANKSGIVING"** is from the same root word as the word **"THINK."**

Philip 1:12-14 (NIV) "Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel. As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly."

Rom 8:28 (NIV) <sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Be assured that God is bigger than your problem!

Matt 19:26 (NIV) "...With God all things are possible."

Rom 8:31 (NIV) "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

## 2. Take time to **EXPRESS** thanks.

Luke 17:11-19 (NIV) <sup>11</sup> Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup> As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance <sup>13</sup> and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" <sup>14</sup> When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. <sup>15</sup> One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. <sup>16</sup> He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him--and he was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup> Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?" <sup>18</sup> Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" <sup>19</sup> Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

### Jesus asked where are the other 9?

- They were caught up in the blessing.
- They were caught up in the results of their healing!
- 10 were healed but only one was made whole.

<sup>19</sup> Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

"Made you well" – literal translation is "has saved you".

## **Spiritual "leprosy"**

*Rom 10:9-13 (NIV) <sup>9</sup> That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved... <sup>13</sup> for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*