

THANKS-GIVING TO CHRIST-MAS?

Psalm 107 - “O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever”

Paul Tripp - “God supplies abundant and life-transforming grace to deliver us from a lifestyle of complaining and invite us into a lifestyle of gratitude”

1- Giving THANKS is commanded - throughout Scripture

Psalm 100 - enter His gates with thanksgiving

Psalm 107 - give thanks - attend to these things

Psalm 111 - I will give thanks in the congregation

Eph 5:20 - “singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus”

2- Giving THANKS is practiced - in the Heavenly courts

Revelation 7:12 - thanksgiving

Revelation 11:17 - give thanks

1 Chr 16:8 - “O give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name, make known His deeds among the peoples! Sing praises to Him; tell of all His wondrous works!”

3- Giving THANKS is modeled - by God's people throughout history

Leviticus 7 - peace offering for thanksgiving

1 Chronicles 16 - give thanks to the Lord

Genesis 4:1-12 - to the Lord an offering

Hebrews 11:1-6 - acceptable through faith

Col 2:7 - “established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving”

4- Giving THANKS can be improved in your life - take the test - on back

Romans 1:16-32 - did not give thanks

Ephesians 5:1-21 - giving thanks always

Philippians 4:4-13 - with thanksgiving

Colossians 1:12, 2:7, 3:17 - thankfulness

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - giving thanks

1 Thess 5:16 - “rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”

5- Giving THANKS points you to Jesus Christ - coming Lord & Savior

2 Peter 1:1-4 - everything for life & godliness

Hebrews 10:1-25 - those being sanctified

Romans 12:1-2 - living sacrifices

Hebrews 12:29-29 - let us be grateful

Colossians 3:14-17 - everything in Jesus' name

Col 3:17 - “with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God”

ENGAGE~WORD~CHURCH~CULTURE...daily BIBLE reading

11-26 - **Psalm 107:1-43** - attend to these things

11-27 - **Leviticus 7:1-38** - thanksgiving offerings

11-28 - **1 Chron 16:1-43** - sacrifice of thanks

11-29 - **Gen 4:1-12; Heb 11:1-6** - righteous

11-30 - **Hebrews 10:1-25** - the new covenant

12-01 - **Ephesians 5:1-21** - giving thanks always

12-02 - **Revelation 7:12, 11:17** - thanksgiving

The Spirit of God works the Word of God so the people of God become like the Son of God

♦ MY RESPONSE...

How will I be transformed, by God's truth, in the Spirit's power, as I trust & obey?

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13 QUESTIONS to Ask This Thanksgiving

Examine your heart. Don't rush through these, just to "check the box" for religious activity. Be honest and intentional about exposing your heart.

When we're honest with ourselves, with God and others, we'll discover we're more arrogant, demanding and entitled than we think. But don't be afraid of what may be revealed by honestly answering these questions

God has already forgiven us entirely on the Cross, and when we cry out for help, he supplies abundant and life-transforming grace to deliver us from a lifestyle of complaining and invite us into a lifestyle of gratitude.

YOUR 2017 THANKS-GIVING ASSESSMENT

1. Would the people who live nearest to you characterize you as a complaining person or a thankful person?
2. When was the last time you sat down to literally count your blessings?
3. When was the last time you spent time grumbling, moaning and complaining about life?
4. When you look at your world, are you pessimistic about everything that's going wrong?
5. When you look at your world, do find yourself celebrating God's common grace?
6. Do you view yourself as one who has been constantly short-changed and neglected?
7. Do you view yourself as one who has been unfairly showered with blessings?
8. How often do you fill in the blank with grumbling, like *"If only I had _____" or "I wish _____ was different"?*
9. How often do you fill in the blank with gratitude, like *"I can't believe God has given me _____"?*
10. In your relationships, are you encouraging friends and family to continue their grumbling?
11. In your relationships, are you encouraging friends and family to find reasons to give thanks to God?
12. In your relationships, do you find yourself frequently tearing others down?
13. In your relationships, do you find yourself frequently building others up?

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