



GIVE
THANKS
TO THE
LORD

Giving Thanks Fits All Bills

By Pastor Sabu Samuel

1. God desires it.

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus” (1 Thessalonians 5:18). The Lord wants to be thanked for His providence and sovereignty. Jesus wants to be thanked for taking our sin and making us clean (redemption). The Spirit wants to be thanked for His guidance and comfort (counselor) God has emotions, and He desires praise. He is worthy and He deserves it.

2. All things are from God.

“I always thank my God for you...for in him you have been enriched in every way—in all your speaking and in all your knowledge...” (1 Corinthians 1:4-5). There is nothing we own in this life. Everything we have has been given to us by our God. From the small detail of our appearance to the house we live in, from each and every breath to our salvation. Even in our greatest offerings and sacrifices, we can’t outgive God.

3. Thanksgiving propels us forward.

“I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites...” (Exodus 16:12)

After God delivered His people out of Egypt they spent their time in the desert complaining. As a result, their eyes were taken off the big picture, and they spent time in the desert than they should have. The Promised Land was waiting, but their lack of thankfulness hindered them from taking the next step.

One lesson that we can learn from this is entitlement holds us back, but gratitude propels us forward into the life God has for us.

Cultivating A Heart Of Thanksgiving

By Rachel Regi

November contains one of the best holidays of the year, in my opinion—Thanksgiving! Partly because I love cooking, but also because it focuses on a very important topic: giving thanks to the Lord for all He has done for us. We hear this concept quite often in the church. What should we give thanks for? Every single thing (big or small) that God has given us. Why should we give thanks? Because God is good. How should we give thanks? Through blessing and praising His name.

It is quite hard to apply this at all times. As most people would agree, it is easier to be thankful and to give thanks when there is joy to be felt in one's circumstances. Although giving thanks and practicing gratitude has been proven to counter negative and anxious thoughts, it is still hard to slow down and consider the goodness that is all around.

An interesting question I recently came across was, "Tell me why you're thankful for anxiety?" The question was puzzling at first, but as I read replies on the post, I gained a biblical perspective on the popular verse "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds" (James 1:2). I saw responses such as "I am thankful for my anxiety when it comes to taking tests because I have the privilege of getting an education" and "My anxiety makes me careful and ahead of the game." This post helped me gain perspective, showing that there is joy and good all around.

Oftentimes, we place our joy and gratitude in our circumstances. We say "God is good" when life is going well. When life gets tough, we tend to quiet our verbal praises. This shows that we place our joy in our situation rather than in God. Our circumstances surely change, but He does not. The character of God is never changing; He remains constant at all times. When we place our joy in God and not in our situations, we can practically be more thankful at all times. The God you were praising at the top of your mountain is still the same in the valleys of life. This is why we can remain thankful. Although trials are guaranteed to happen, we have assurance that God will still be with us through them. Even in trials, His tender mercies are present. All it takes is a change in perspective to feel His presence.

I urge you, dear church members, to pray for a heart more aware of His goodness in all things, which will create a more thankful heart within you.

Activity: Be Thankful

There are a lot of important people that we should be thankful for. Try to think of people that you should be thankful for and shade the boxes. Try to think of different people.

the friend who listens without judgment	the teacher who believes in me	the friend who brings laughter to the day	the neighbor who offers a helping hand
the mentor who encourages my growth	the pastor who leads with humility	the stranger who showed me kindness	the leader who models integrity
the family member who shows up with a smile	the parent who sacrificed for my future	the person who believes in my dreams	the friend who sticks around
the friend who prays for me	the sibling who supports me	the grandparent who shares wisdom	the person who reminds me of life's wonder

Weekly Meetings

Date	Time	Location
Monday	10:30 AM	@ Church
Tuesday	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	@ Zoom
Friday	10:00 AM - 11:00AM	@ Zoom
Saturday	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	@ Church

Mark Your Calendar

Event	Date	Location
ICPF	11/09	@Church
Cottage Prayer	11/16	@Bro. Sam Malayil's House
Thanksgiving Prayer	11/28	@Church

Pray For Nations

Country	Capital	Population est.
Macau	Macau	681,000
Madagascar	Antananarivo	30,854,000
Malawi	Lilongwe	20,271,000
Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	33,173,000
Maldives	Male	544,700