

- Order of Service -

Call to Worship

Welcoming Prayer

Reading Psalm 34:1-8

- 239, For the beauty of the Earth
- 594, County your Blessings
- Doxology
- 33, Great is Thy faithfulness

Announcements and Prayer requests

Greeting

Message in the Word -

Five avenues of Gratitude

Gratitude is the distinguishing mark of faithfulness

Psalm 34:1-8

Sending prayer

You may notice we don't pass an offering plate

We invite you to participate in the ministry, and the offering box in the foyer is for your gifts and offerings for the Lord's work.

- 2 Corinthians 9:7-8, Galatians 6:6 -

Grace Bible Fellowship

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GRACE
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
love. truth. grace.

We are identified with Jesus Christ in his crucifixion, death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and heavenly seating.



- Teaching -

Eric Peterman

Five avenues of Gratitude

Gratitude is the distinguishing mark of faithfulness

Psalm 34:1-8

- November 19th, 2023 -

Five avenues of Gratitude

Gratitude is the distinguishing mark of faithfulness

Psalm 34:1-8

There are many right ways to look at and evaluate the people in the Bible. But there is one simple and profound way in which people are portrayed, one key way in which their hearts and lives are measured. You see, people can be divided into two camps: The grateful and the thankless. The thankful and the bitter ingrate. From the first conflict in Genesis, of Cain murdering his brother Abel out of bitter thanklessness, through the Psalms, all the way to the end of this world in Revelation 20 where the thankless multitudes in Christ's millennial kingdom surround the city of the grateful believers seeking their destruction, humanity is divided sharply and starkly portrayed as either grateful or thankless. Even the angels are revealed to be of one of these two disparate camps! The grateful and holy versus the ingrate fallen. Look for this as you read the Scriptures and you'll see what I mean. Once you see it, you can't unsee it!

An attitude of thanksgiving to God will fill us with hope, and joy and an unquenchable sense of good reasons to obey Him. Today we're going to check into five Bible passages illuminating that crown jewel of virtues: Gratitude! This will help us refocus on the many splendored blessings of God and on finding His goodness tucked away in the corners of our everyday lives in the Spirit. God's Word informs us of a great secret to a successful and happy Christian life: The power and life changing effects of gratitude! May the Spirit prune, trim up and water our vines for fruit bearing!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

16 Rejoice always; 17 pray without ceasing; 18 in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-8

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 3:15-16

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. 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.

Colossians 3:17

Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Questions of the heart: What are you known for? What is your reputation in this regard? Are you known for your gratitude or your aptitude for complaining? Is there peace or bitterness in your heart and on your tongue today?

This week, this year, let us make Thanksgiving more than just a national and family tradition. If we look to our Savior, Jesus with more than just a momentary glance, but with a steady contemplation, we will find ample reason for a heart overflowing with gratitude!

May our lives, each and every day, be a rich feast of Thanksgiving to God!