

Personal/ Small Group Sermon Study

Thanksgiving is Thanks Living

Week of November 28, 2021 A.D.

Say out loud, “Thank you, Jesus.” That feels good, doesn’t it? Wow! If it feels so good, then why don’t we say it more often – like maybe, several times a day? We’ve been hard-wired by God to be thankful people. Let’s rediscover the gift and power of the thanksgiving in this week’s study.

Introduction

Thanksgiving is defined as: the expression of gratitude, especially to God; a public acknowledgement or celebration of the goodness of God.

1. What are the benefits of (a) expressing thanksgiving to God and (b) expressing praise to God?
2. How do you feel when another person expresses thanks to you? How do you feel when another person fails to thank you when you did something to help them?
3. What are some real-life ways in which we can and should express thanksgiving to Jesus: (a) as a nation, (b) as a church, and (c) as an individual? Please answer each question fully before discussing the next.

Read Psalm 100

4. What makes you “shout for joy”? How do you feel mentally, emotionally, and physically when you do so? Why? In your opinion, why does God want us to “shout for joy to” Him?
5. “Worship” is defined as “an act of expressing reverence and/or respect and love for God.” Why does the Lord want us to worship Him with gladness?
6. Does God expect all Christians to sing joyful songs to Him during a church service (regardless of the quality of their singing voices)? Please explain.

7. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “We owe God a debt of gratitude for absolutely everything that we enjoy.”

8. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “When we give thanksgiving and praise to Jesus, we are acknowledging that: we need Him desperately; and, apart from Christ, we can do nothing.”

9. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “When I fail to acknowledge that God owns everything and that I deserve nothing, I am living as a ‘practical atheist’.”

10. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “One of the best ways for me to express thanksgiving to the Lord is for me to be extravagantly kind and generous to other people – especially to people who cannot return the favor.”

Read 2 Corinthians 9:10-15

11. What would be the result if every Christian was generously “supplying the needs” of other Christians? Please explain by using a verse by verse discussion and analysis of this passage.

12. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “When I have a proper attitude of thanksgiving toward Jesus, I will not complain about anything that I do not have; and, I will thank Jesus for all that I do have.”

Consider: America’s twenty-nine trillion dollar (\$29,000,000,000,000) public federal debt (not including state and private debt) is convincing proof that our culture does not trust God and that our culture is not thankful toward Him. I do not need to follow the deceit of the culture. I will live a life of thanksgiving to God. Each morning, I will start my day by announcing to God every blessing for which I am thankful. And, every day, I will be kind and generous to others so that they too may have reason to express thanksgiving to God.