

(1 Thessalonians 5:18) Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

--- Barriers to a grateful heart ---

1. \_\_\_\_\_ – I have a tendency \_\_\_\_\_.

(Philippians 4:8) Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ – I have a tendency \_\_\_\_\_.

(1 Timothy 6:17) Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ – I have a tendency \_\_\_\_\_.

(2 Timothy 3:1-2) You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred.

--- Gratitude = Giving ---

(Luke 7:36-50) One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat. When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. Then she knelt behind him at his feet, weeping. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them. When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!" Then Jesus answered his thoughts. "Simon," he said to the Pharisee, "I have something to say to you." "Go ahead, Teacher," Simon replied. Then Jesus told him this story: "A man loaned money to two people—500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?"

Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the larger debt." "That's right," Jesus said. Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You didn't greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume. "I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love." Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven." The men at the table said among themselves, "Who is this man, that he goes around forgiving sins?" And Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

✓ I will \_\_\_\_\_.

(2 Corinthians 8:12 ESV) For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have.

• \_\_\_\_\_...

"Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair.

✓ I will \_\_\_\_\_.

(John 13:34-35) So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

• Give \_\_\_\_\_...

You didn't greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet.

✓ I will \_\_\_\_\_.

(2 Corinthians 9:11 ESV) You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

• Give sacrificially \_\_\_\_\_.

You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume.