

FAITHFUL TO THE MISSION OPEN DOORS OF A GRATEFUL HEART

Hannah Johnston

I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving. (Psalm 69:30, NIV)

Definition of gratefulness (Cambridge): showing or expressing thanks, especially to another person.

Gratefulness is a spiritual discipline that the Lord desires in every believer.

In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:18, NET)

Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe. (Hebrews 12:28, NLT)

Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude. (Colossians 2:6-7, NASB)

Everything God does is with purpose. When God tells us to do something in His word it is with intent. We are to give it our full attention. Gratitude isn't a minor part to a believer's life. In the same way that ingratitude is not a minor sin. Gratitude matters to God. God desires that we have in abundance, an attitude of gratitude.

Gratitude is never invisible or silent, (Luke 6:45) out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.

Contentment versus _____

The 10 Lepers Luke 17:11-19

Their _____ - They saw and they sensed their need.

Their _____ - Jesus tells them to go to the priest.

The _____ of praise - And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back. He saw a reason to praise.

The _____ of praise - He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done.

We Can Show Gratitude to God Even in The Midst of a Storm.

... Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 5:19-20, NIV).

Gratitude gets us through the hard stuff. To reflect on your blessings is to rehearse God's accomplishments. To rehearse God's accomplishments is to discover his heart. To discover his heart is to discover not just good gifts but the Good Giver. Max Lucado

12 Benefits of Giving God Thanks.

1. Gratitude _____ God. *And as God's grace reaches more and more people, there will be great thanksgiving, and God will receive more and more glory. (2 Corinthians 4:15)*
2. Gratitude helps us _____ God. *Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights. (James 1:16-17)*

3. Gratitude puts us right in God's _____. *Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)*
4. Gratitude brings _____. *Do not be anxious about anything but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)*
5. Gratitude _____ us to God. *Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well." (Luke 17:17-19)*
6. Gratitude brings _____. *Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and neither can we carry anything out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. (1 Timothy 6:6-8)*
7. Gratitude _____ faith. *Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. (Psalm 136:1)*
8. Gratitude leads to _____. *When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. (Psalm 126:1-3)*
9. Gratitude defies Satan's _____. *No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly. (Psalm 84:11)*
10. Gratitude guards against _____. *I will give You thanks with all my heart. (Psalm 138:1)*
11. Gratitude helps us live in the _____. *Say not, "Why were the former days better than these?" For it is not from wisdom that you ask this. (Ecclesiastes 7:10)*
12. Gratitude is a _____. *Give thanks to the LORD and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done. (Psalm 105:1)*