



REFLECT

1. Was there anything in this week's sermon that was hard to hear but you nevertheless needed to hear?
2. Who was the last person you personally thanked? How do you like to show gratitude?

ENCOUNTER

“Give thanks in everything, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus” (1 Thess. 5:18). Thankfulness is the will of God and a mark of the Spirit of God. Conversely, Paul told the Romans a lack of gratitude is evidence of a hard and darkened heart. “For though they knew God, they did not glorify him as God or show gratitude. Instead, their thinking became worthless, and their senseless hearts were darkened (Romans 1:21).

The Bible commands us to give thanks nearly forty times. On top of that, Paul gave thanks in nearly every letter he wrote. What are some things we should give thanks for according to Paul's letters to the Thessalonians?

3. 1 Thessalonians 1:3
4. 1 Thessalonians 2:13
5. 1 Thessalonians 3:9
6. 2 Thessalonians 2:13

TRANSFORM

7. If you are willing to share, is there anything you are having difficulty giving thanks for?
8. Let thanksgiving dominate your prayer time today. Give thanks for...
 - God's faithful love and wondrous works
 - God's word
 - Our group and our church
 - For joyful relationships
 - Your Salvation
 - Spiritual growth

PRAYER REQUESTS

*It's one thing to be grateful. It's another to give thanks.
Gratitude is what you feel. Thanksgiving is what you do.*

~ Tim Keller ~