

A wooden walkway with railings winds through a forest with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of yellow, orange, and red. The scene is captured from a low angle, looking down the path. A large, semi-transparent circular graphic is centered over the path, serving as a background for the text.

# Thanksgiving

MORE THAN A MEAL



Praise and Thanksgiving  
are mutually inclusive

*friendship*  
SERIES

## **Psalm 95:1-2 NIV**

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.



## **Psalm 100:4-5 NIV**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and praise his name.  
For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;  
his faithfulness continues through all generations.





Thanksgiving is foundational  
In praise and worship

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## **1 Corinthians 1:4-9 NIV**

I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.





## **Ephesians 1:3-6 NIV**

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.



Similar prayers are found  
throughout the Epistles (letters).



## **Philippians 2:1-2 NIV**

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.





Thanksgiving - an expression of gratitude, especially towards God.

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Paul's thankfulness is for God's  
Work in the people of the Church

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What are you most thankful for?

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## **Leviticus 19:18 NIV**

“Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.





## Mark 12:28-31 NIV

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

“The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”





Loving your neighbor is being thankful for God's work in them.

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## **Matthew 11:25-26 NIV**

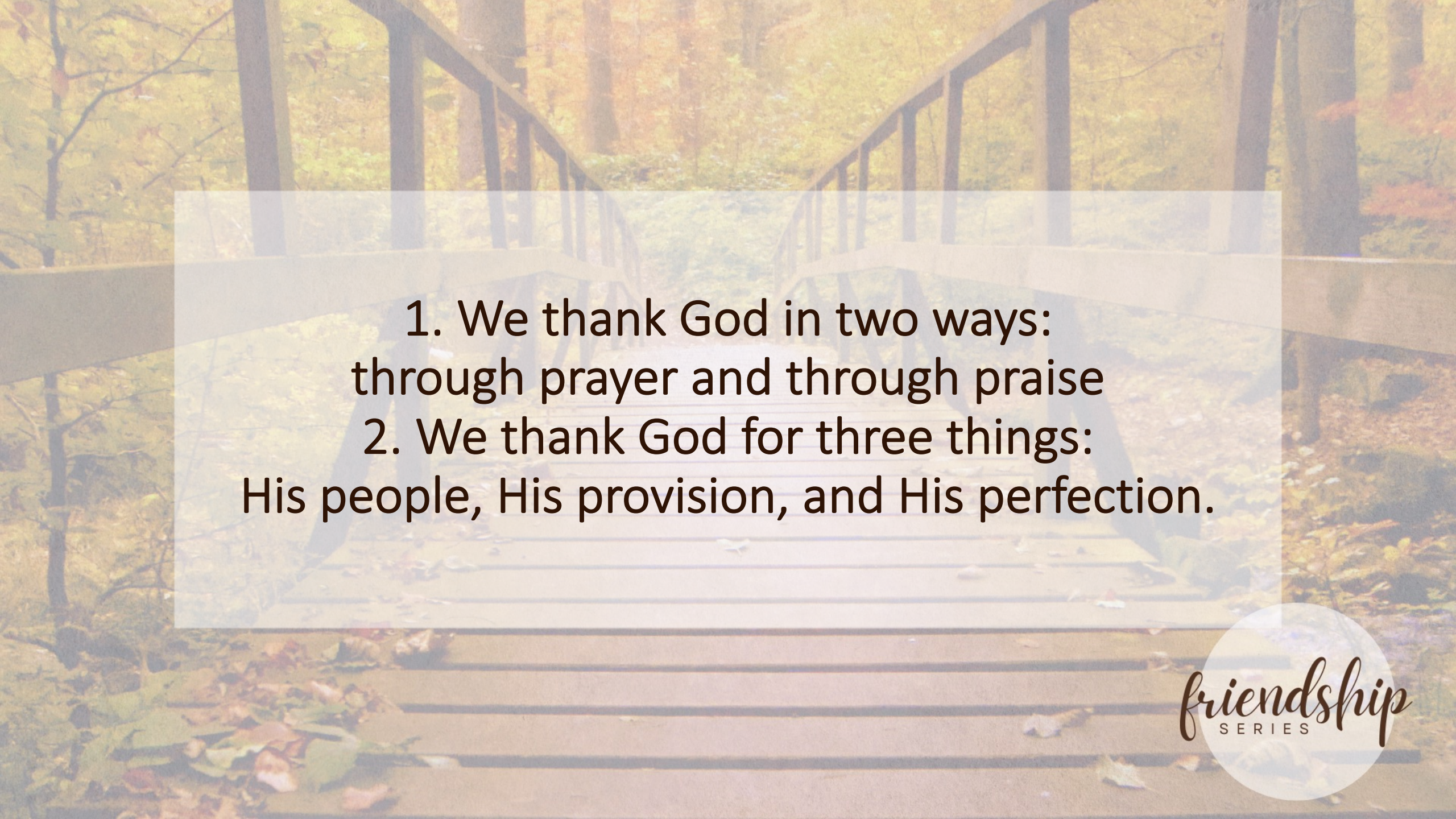
At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.



## **Matthew 14:19-21 NIV**

And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.



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1. We thank God in two ways:  
through prayer and through praise
2. We thank God for three things:  
His people, His provision, and His perfection.

## **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV**

Rejoice always, pray (without ceasing) continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.





With a thankful heart, we should  
seek to praise without ceasing.

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*Thanksgiving*  
MORE THAN A MEAL

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