



# Gratitude & Service

Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 03/24/2019

## I. Givers & Takers

---

---

---

---

## II. Sincere Gratitude

Philippians 1:3-5

---

---

---

---

## III. Humble Service

John 13:12-17

---

---

---

---

## IV. Staying Grounded

---

---

---

---

### Personal Reflection

Take time this week to pray & respond to the following:

*Many individuals tend to gravitate toward being either a giver or a taker when it comes to their interactions with others. Givers and takers are always around you. You interact with them on a daily basis. Each encounter impacts your life in countless nuanced but collectively powerful ways.*

*Think for a moment about the blessings and encouragement you you gain from the “givers” in your life—the people who invest in your well-being and nurture your spirit. Now consider the “takers” — those whose neediness far surpasses what they give.*

*Resist the urge to entertain thoughts of resentment or frustration toward those individuals. Instead ask yourself, “Am I practicing the spiritual disciplines of gratitude and service? Am I a giver or a taker? Am I intentional about expressing my graciousness to those who are such a blessing to me?”*

*Gratitude & service keep you grounded in Christian faith and in productive activity rather than stagnant idleness. When you say “thank you” and give yourself in service, you are modeling the love and humility of your Savior. The Lord requires His children to be disciplined in gratitude and service because they tend to drift toward aloofness and selfishness. This drift impedes personal ministry and stymies spiritual growth.*

*Prayerfully assess the magnitude of your graciousness and thanksgiving. Next, consider your motives and commitment to Christian service. Ask God to work in your heart and mind to the end that your gratitude and service will give evidence of a deepening love for Jesus Christ. Praise God for giving you the capacity to feel the joy of humble, gracious thanksgiving and the pride of being part of serving in His name, for His glory.*