



Live Sent: ThanksLIVING

And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. Colossian 3:15 NLT

INTRODUCTION:

Particular times set aside for the observance of Thanksgiving in North America date all the way back to the Plymouth Colony in 1621. President George Washington declared the 4th Thursday of November 1789 “a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.” From the beginning of her history until today, the United States of America has regularly set aside days for Thanksgiving. Of course, this practice is not exclusive to the United States. Many other countries also designate special days for thanksgiving. And, thanksgiving is not the exclusive practice of the citizens of particular countries. God’s people are instructed throughout scripture to give thanks and to be thankful. In this short study we will see how the message of Christ unleashed in our lives is expressed in THANKSLiving!

SCRIPTURE:

Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. 13 Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

16 Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. 17 And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father. Colossians 3:12-17 NLT

Thanksgiving BEGINS with the “MESSAGE ABOUT CHRIST”

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Colossians 3:16a

What is the message about Christ?

1. The “Message about” or “Word of Christ” is the GOOD NEWS that saves.

*1For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” 14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? 15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the **word of Christ**. Romans 10:13-15, 17 NLT*

2. The “Message about” or “Word of Christ” is MANIFEST through a Believer's THANKSLiving. The way a believer lives!

Thanksgiving Springs from being ROOTED in “the message about Christ” and manifests in particular qualities of character we possess.

*Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. **Colossians 3:12 NLT***

We are people with . . .

- tenderhearted mercy
- kindness,
- humility,
- gentleness, and
- patience.

Thanksgiving Springs from being ROOTED in “the message about Christ” and informs the way we relate to others.

*Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. **Colossians 3:13 NLT***

We are people who . . .

- Make allowance for each other's faults, and
- Forgive anyone who offends you. (WHY DO WE FORGIVE - Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.)

Thanksgiving Springs from being ROOTED in “the message about Christ” and we . . .

- LOVE & Live in PEACE

*Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. **5** And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.*

Colossians 3:14&15 NLT

- Teach and Counsel
- SING
- REPRESENT _____!

*Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. **17** And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father. **Colossians 3:12-17 NLT***