



# House of New Beginnings

ShalomAZ Ministries  
*In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption*

Baruch Atah, ADONAI. Thank You, Lord.  
Rabbi Cosmo Panzetta  
Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts: Psalm 103; 1 Thess. 5:16-18; Gen. 50:20

## **1. Gratitude Flows From God's Presence and Grows in Humility**

Gratitude isn't based on what we have but on our awareness of God's presence and goodness. It flows from recognizing that every good thing we receive comes from God. As Psalm 103 reminds us, "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits." Gratitude requires humility, acknowledging that we are not entitled to the blessings we receive. Humility helps us see God's gifts for what they are—unearned expressions of His love.

Gratitude is a way of seeing life, not just an emotion. It's recognizing God as the Benefactor, ourselves as the beneficiaries, and His gifts as undeserved Benefits. Without this perspective, we risk falling into entitlement or self-pity during seasons of adversity. Our ancestors in the wilderness grumbled despite daily miracles. Let us, instead, learn to thank God for everyday blessings we often take for granted—like Joseph, who saw God's hand in his trials and later said, "You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good" (Genesis 50:20).

Reflect on one way God's presence has brought blessings into your life, and thank Him humbly. Practice seeing your daily blessings, big or small, as gifts from God rather than things owed to you.

## **2. Give Thanks in All Circumstances**

Gratitude isn't just for good times. As 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 exhorts, "Rejoice always, pray constantly, in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Messiah Yeshua." In Jewish tradition, blessings are offered in every circumstance, good or bad. Joseph, Job, and Sean Trank exemplify this: despite suffering, they trusted God's sovereignty and gave thanks, finding meaning and hope in their trials.

Identify a difficult circumstance in your life where you can still say, “Thank You, Lord,” trusting that God can work it for good.

Write down five things you’re thankful for today, including one challenge or hardship. Spend time in prayer, thanking God for each one, asking for His perspective and presence to fill your heart.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. What are some ways you can cultivate an awareness of God's presence in your daily life?
2. How does humility help us develop a grateful heart?
3. How can we give thanks in difficult circumstances without denying the reality of our pain?
4. Share an example of a time when you focused on what you didn’t have rather than being grateful for what you did. How did it affect your outlook?
5. How can seeing yourself as a “beneficiary” of God’s goodness change the way you view your blessings and trials?

### **Closing Prayer:**

***Baruch Atah, Adonai—Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe.*** Thank You for every perfect gift that comes from above. We confess that too often we focus on what we lack rather than the abundant blessings You give. Help us to walk humbly in Your presence, recognizing that all we have comes from You. Teach us to give thanks in every circumstance, trusting in Your goodness and sovereignty. May we bless Your name in both abundance and difficulty, living with grateful hearts that glorify You.

*B’shem Yeshua, In the Name of Yeshua, Amen.*