



1 THESSALONIANS SERIES – 33

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

THREE CRITICAL DIRECTIVES FOR THE CHURCH *In Everything Give Thanks*

INTRODUCTION

God commands us to rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in everything.

THREE CRITICAL DIRECTIVES FOR THE CHURCH

1. GOD COMMANDS US TO REJOICE ALWAYS
2. GOD COMMANDS US TO PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

3. GOD COMMANDS US TO GIVE THANKS IN EVERYTHING.

What does this command mean?

“in all circumstances” (en panti) - all that occurs in life.

This command means that in every situation we are to give thanks to our sovereign and good God and Savior.

Remember...

Your responsibility, by God’s enabling, is to constantly apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Phil. 2:12-13; 1 Tim. 4:7-9; Jam 1:22-27).

As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions:

How does God want my beliefs/actions to change?

How can I accomplish this change?

What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

How can we develop a habit of thankfulness to God in every situation?

- Deepen your understanding of God's sovereignty and goodness. - Genesis 37-50
- Thankfulness will be our habit when trust in God is our habit.

Ephesians 5:20 – *"²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"*

To Always Give Thanks For All Things...

...Deliberately Focus On God The Father.

- Focus must be deliberate, especially in times of trial.
- Focus on the Father's sovereignty.
- Focus on the Father's love.
- Focus on God's many blessings, but especially on His salvation.

To Always Give Thanks For All Things...

...Joyfully Submit To God.

Ephesians 5:19 – *"¹⁹ singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart"*

We should be thankful for...

- God's righteous character
- Christ's redemptive work
- Holy Spirit's ministry on our behalf
- Spiritual blessings we possess
- God's providence
- Promise of future glory
- Answered prayer
- Gift of God's Word
- Privilege of genuine fellowship
- Saving proclamation of the gospel