

A Better Home for Christmas (Week 2)

A HOME THAT IS BETTER AT THANKING

Colossians 3:15–17 & Psalm 100

Ron Milne | November 22, 2026

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90 seconds
of gratitude.



364 days of
keeping score.

University of Georgia Research: *The most consistent predictor of a healthy marriage is not the bank balance, but whether each spouse feels dued, and thanked.*

University of Georgia Research:

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Gratitude turns a house of complaints into a home of praise.

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And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Colossians 3:15–16 (ESV)



And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:17 (ESV)



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Section 1
RULED BY PEACE

Colossians 3:15

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brabeuō (bra-byoo-oh)

To umpire; to act as the referee.

Desire to win the argument →

← Desire to keep the peace

When the desire to win collides with the desire to keep peace, let the peace of Christ blow the whistle.

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Real Life: Let Peace Referee

Call a time-out

Stop and pray before finishing an argument. Let Christ's peace make the call.

Ask the question

Will this make peace, or just make my point?

Thank before you correct

Start with genuine gratitude to change how the rest is heard.

Remember your team

We are called in one body. Your family is not your opponent.

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Section 2

RICH IN THE WORD

Colossians 3:16

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Gratitude is the hinge of a Christian home.

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The House of Praise

Enoikeō: The Word at home (living in)

Eucharisteō: Grace recognized (giving thanks)

Brabeuō: Peace making the call (ruling)

VS.

The House of Complaints

Gongysmos: The low, steady mutter of grumbling.

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Real Life: Fill the House with Word & Song

Read before you eat

Share Psalm 100 before supper.

Sing of grace

Sing a Doxology or hymn as a family.

Coach the heart

Help children notice the giver, not just the gift.

Revisit the grumble

Later, ask, “What could we have been thankful for?”

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Section 3

RENDERING THANKS IN EVERYTHING

Colossians 3:17; Psalm 100:3–5

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The difference is not what is on the table. It is what is in the heart.

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1 Thessalonians 5:18
Give thanks **IN** all circumstances.

Our thanks are built on who God is, not on what our circumstances are.

Gratitude that rests on God's character can stand at a graveside.

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Real Life: Make Thanks the House Language

Do chores in His name

Pray, “Lord, I am doing this for You.”

Thank them for the ordinary

Appreciate everyday faithfulness (coffee, laundry, paychecks).

Start a blessing jar

Write down answered prayers to read later.

Fast from complaining

For 24 hours, turn every grumble into a thank-you.

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Every gift under every tree
points back to one Gift.

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Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift! — 2 Corinthians 9:15

Gratitude is what happens when people see Jesus.

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At Home This Week



1. Name one specific thing God did for your family this year.

2. Read Psalm 100 together.

3. Sing the Doxology or “Now Thank We All Our God” before you eat.

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