THE GRATITUDE RESPONSE

REMEMBERING GOD'S GOODNESS. TRUSTING HIS FAITHFULNESS.

Matt Sturdevant
Lead Pastor
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[6]Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him,
[7]rooted and built up in him and established in the faith,
just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
Colossians 2:6-7 ESV

Three important truths to help us develop a lifestyle of gratitude:

1. Gratitude begins with **WHO** God is *Psalm 100:4-5, 136:1*
   - Thanksgiving must begin with the right **UNDERSTANDING** of God
   - Two unchanging characteristics of God:
     - God's **GOODNESS** *Genesis 1:31; Psalm 34:8, 145:9; James 1:17*
     - God's **FAITHFULNESS** *Numbers 23:19; Deuteronomy 32:4; Lamentations 3:22-23; Psalm 77:11*

2. Gratitude grows as we **REMEMBER** what God has done *Ephesians 2:1-5; Romans 5:6-11*
   - One of our greatest spiritual problems is **FORGETFULNESS** *Deuteronomy 8:11-14*
   - Remember the **GOOD** God has already done
   - The **GOSPEL** is our greatest reason for gratitude *John 3:16; Romans 5:8*
   - HARD TRUTH: If God never did **ANOTHER** good thing for us in this life, what He has already done through Jesus would be enough to give us a reason for **GRATITUDE** every single day
   - Remembering requires intentionality

Online Notes

KEEP READING →

3. Gratitude continues as we **TRUST** what God is doing

1 Thessalonians 5:18; Hebrews 12:7-11

- God is working in the **PRESENT**, not merely in the **PAST**
- Thanksgiving is God's **WILL** for His people
- God is working even when we **CANNOT SEE** it *Romans 8:28-29*
- Gratitude in difficult circumstances requires **FAITH**
- Gratitude should **CHANGE** how we live

Acts 2:42-47; Revelation 4:11; Luke 6:46; Mark 10:45; 1 John 4:19; 2 Corinthians 9:11, 5:14-15

Three Questions for Personal Reflection:

1. REMEMBER – *What has God already done for me that I need to remember and thank Him for?* _____
2. TRUST – *Where am I struggling to trust God's goodness and faithfulness in my present circumstances?* _____
3. RESPOND – *What is one specific way I can express my gratitude to God this week?*

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Memory Verse:

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
1 Thessalonians 5:18 ESV

Recommended Resources:

John Series
Acts Series
Romans Series
Colossians Series
Psalms Series

My next step today is to...

- o Memorize 1 Thessalonians 5:18
- o Repent and accept Jesus as my Savior and submit to His Lordship for the first time!
- o Go public as a follower of Jesus and get baptized
- o Spend additional time this week thanking God
- o Pray about how God wants my family to participate in the ***Beyond Us*** Christmas Offering
- o Watch or listen to ***The 3C Podcast*** to go deeper this week
- o _____