

THE BENEFITS OF GIVING THANKS

COLOSSIANS 3:15-17

Reading the Bible is not always easy. Sure, there's plenty within scripture that we comprehend without much difficulty. But at times we come across a passage that baffles us, or worse, makes us feel angry or annoyed. Sometimes it's because we simply don't understand what the Lord is saying through the text. It's easier to move on to more appealing topics than to hash it out with God and do what He says. In the end, the Bible challenges us to change. One of the verses that can really get under your skin; "In everything give thanks". This command has nothing to do with feelings, whenever God gives us a command from scripture, it's for our benefit.

1. Gratitude keeps us continually aware that the Lord is _____ by.

Gratefulness doesn't come naturally in difficult circumstances, a decision to thank God for walking with us through life makes us more sensitive to His comforting presence.

2. Thanksgiving helps bring our will into _____ to God.

Thanking the Lord is a giant step toward being able to follow Christ's example and say God's will is best even if it's hard.

Luke 22:42 (NKJV) ⁴² saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."

3. It reminds us of our _____ upon the Lord.

Whenever we're trapped in a situation that leaves us helpless and hopeless, thanking God for His control over all things reminds us that He alone is our strength.

4. Gratitude gives us an _____.

The apostle Paul is an amazing example of someone who suffered extreme hardship yet remain thankful.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

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