

Growing Up with Gratitude
I Thessalonians 5:18

I Thessalonians 5:18 (HCSB)

“Give thanks in everything, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

I. A Gratitude Obligation

Psalm 100:4 (NIV)

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

Hebrews 13:15 (NASB)

Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

"I hate ingratitude more in man than lying, vainness, babbling, drunkenness, or any taint of vice, whose strong corruption inhabits our frail blood. How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless child." - William Shakespeare

II. A Gratitude Limitation

“Give thanks in everything....”

- Our Benefits

Psalm 103:2 (NASB)

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits;."

- Our Burdens

II Corinthians 4:8-15 (NIV)

We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. ... All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.



- Our Blessings

Colossians 2:6-7 (NIV)

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

III. Our Gratitude Satisfaction

"...this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Grateful Believers will always be:

- Glad Believers

Psalms 107:21-22 (NIV)

"Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men. Let them sacrifice thank offerings and tell of his works with songs of joy."

- Giving Believers

1 Chronicles 29:13-14 (NIV)

"Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."

- Growing Believers

"Would you know who is the greatest saint in the world? It is not he who prays most; it is not he who gives most, or is more eminent for chastity, or justice; but it is he who is always thankful to God, who receives everything as an instance of God's goodness, and has a heart always ready to praise God for it."

William Law, A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life