

**THE PURPOSE OF THANKSGIVING**  
**#SermonGratitude**  
**Celebration Sunday**  
**Dr. Mark Jackson - November 17, 2019**

**Colossians 2:7** Sink your roots in him and build on him. Be strengthened by the faith that you were taught, and overflow with thanksgiving. (GW)

*A life built on Jesus: **OVERFLOWS IN GRATITUDE***

**1 Thessalonians 5:18** Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (NIV)

**GRATITUDE IS GOD'S WILL BECAUSE...**

**1. IT MAKES ME BETTER NOT BITTER**

**Hebrews 12:15b** Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many. (NLT)

**Romans 1:21** People knew God, but they did not honor him as God, and they did not thank him... There was not one good thought left in their foolish minds. (ERV)

**2. IT DEFEATS THE DEVIL**

**1 Peter 5:8** Control yourselves and be careful! The devil is your enemy. And he goes around like a roaring lion looking for someone to eat. (ICB)

**Colossians 4:2** Continue praying and keep alert. And when you pray, always thank God. (ICB)

**3. IT HONORS GOD**

**Psalms 50:23a** Giving thanks is a sacrifice that truly honors me... (NLT)

**Hebrews 13:15-16** Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise--the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup> ...for with such sacrifices God is pleased. (NIV)

**4. IT BUILDS GOOD RELATIONSHIPS**

**Philippians 1:3** Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. (NLT)

**2 Thessalonians 1:3** ...giving thanks to God for you is not only the right thing to do, but it is our duty to God... (LB)

## **5. IT DEVELOPS MY FAITH**

**Job 13:15** God may kill me, but still I will trust him... (CEV)

**Habakkuk 3:17-18** Though the cherry trees don't blossom and the strawberries don't ripen, Though the apples are worm-eaten and the wheat fields stunted, Though the sheep pens are sheepless and the cattle barns empty, <sup>18</sup> I'm singing joyful praise to GOD. I'm turning cartwheels of joy to my Savior God. (MSG)

## **6. IT'S A WITNESS TO UNBELIEVERS**

**Philippians 2:14-16a** In everything you do, stay away from complaining and arguing <sup>15</sup> so that no one can speak a word of blame against you. You are to live clean, innocent lives as children of God in a dark world full of people who are crooked and stubborn. Shine out among them like beacon lights, <sup>16</sup> holding out to them the Word of Life. (LB)

**Matthew 26:26-28** While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." <sup>27</sup> Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. <sup>28</sup> This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. (NIV)

**1 Corinthians 11:23b-26** ...The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup> In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." <sup>26</sup> For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (NIV)