

## Spontaneous Thanksgiving

Brad McConnaughey // January 3, 2021

Psalm 100

1. We are \_\_\_\_\_ to come into God's \_\_\_\_\_ to worship and celebrate our God. (Vrs. 1,2,4)

A. \_\_\_\_\_ is the atmosphere of this occasion. (v. 1-2)

B. Our worship is characterized by our \_\_\_\_\_ of gratitude and praise. (v. 4)

2. God is \_\_\_\_\_ of our worship. (Vrs. 3,5)

A. Because of who He is. (v. 3)

What does thanksgiving do?

(1) It gives \_\_\_\_\_ to the giver.

*"When the Lord your God brings you into the Land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you – a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant – then when you eat and are satisfied, be careful you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery." **Deuteronomy 6:10-12***

*"What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?" **1 Corinthians 4:7***

(2) It demonstrates \_\_\_\_\_.

*"When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?" **Psalm 8:3-4***

B. Because of who we are. (v. 3)

- (1) He made us – we are “His” created beings.
- (2) We are *His* people. He purchased our salvation.
- (3) We are *His* sheep. We are under His constant care.
- (4) Thanksgiving is to characterize who we are.

*“Be imitators of God, therefore as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.” **Ephesians 5:1-4***

*“For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.” **Romans 1:21***

C. Because of \_\_\_\_\_ He has done. (v. 5)

- (1) He gives us good things because He is good.
- (2) He loves us unconditionally and constantly because He is love.
- (3) He is faithful in keeping his promises because He is faithful.

*“Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, ‘Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.’”*

**Hebrews 13:5**

Why is thanksgiving important?

- (a) It takes our eyes off of ourselves.

*“But if we have food and clothing we will be content.” **1 Timothy 3:8***

*“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, naked I will depart.” **Job 1:21***

- (b) It is a \_\_\_\_\_ of worship.

Things that can keep us from giving thanks:

- (a) Our self-centered attitude of \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) The \_\_\_\_\_ that we live in.
- (c) \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves with others.
- (d) \_\_\_\_\_.

**3. Practical ways to develop the \_\_\_\_\_ of giving thanks.**

A. Write down \_\_\_\_\_ and read them daily.

B. \_\_\_\_\_ a list. (Take Inventory, Count your blessings)

- 1. Spiritual Blessings  
God's grace, patience, and love; His Word, His Spirit
- 2. Relational Blessings  
Family members, friends, mentors
- 3. Physical Blessings  
Our bodies, five senses, our skills, abilities, talents
- 4. Material Blessings  
Job, finances, home, cars, clothes, food, experiences
- 5. Answered Prayers  
Keep a "Journal of Gratefulness"

C. Occasionally, take a "\_\_\_\_\_ walk" and give thanks.

D. Place creative \_\_\_\_\_ in conspicuous places that will help you \_\_\_\_\_ give God thanks.

## **Read the Bible this year**

Pastor Brad encouraged us to read the Bible in 2020. Here are the final readings to finish the Bible. Each day this week read from the Old and New Testament. Or, if you prefer, read just from one testament. Enjoy!

- **Zephaniah; Revelation 16**
- **Haggai; Revelation 17**
- **Zechariah 1-4; Revelation 18**
- **Zechariah 5-8; Revelation 19**
- **Zechariah 9-12; Revelation 20**
- **Zechariah 13-14; Revelation 21**
- **Malachi 1-4; Revelation 22**