

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Gratitude Should Be Expressed!"

By Pastor Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Church, Norton

Scripture speaks of two obligations of man to God, praising and obeying Him. Man is created for worship and if he refuses to let God have the place of true honor, which rightly belongs to Him, then mankind will put something or someone in God's place. True victories in life are won by Christians who are joyful, prayerful and thankful.

We are to express gratitude always, simply because Scripture says so. David wrote, "Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens." (Psalms 68:19) We are always to be thankful for God's daily goodness and mercy.

2 Corinthians says we are to thank God for His indescribable gift, Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 9:15) Paul says we are to thank God continually for those who receive God's Word. (1 Thesalonians 2:13)

There is no trouble

that God cannot handle. By His grace, He has even delivered people from trouble they have brought upon themselves.

Through Christ we have deliverance from indwelling sin. (Romans 7-8) Born again Chris-

tians have victory over death and the grave.... (1 Corinthians 15:57) The theme of Paul's epistles often pointed Christians to thankfulness. Hebrews 13:15 says, "Through Jesus, therefore let us continually offer to God a

sacrifice of praise - the fruit of our lips confess His name." Believers are to offer praise to God continually. Since a loving God is working out His purposes all the time, there is no circumstance in which praise should not be given.

For application's sake: Have you ever thanked God for the person who planted the seeds of the gospel into your life? Have you thanked Him for the prayer intercessors He raised up in your behalf? Have you ever thanked God for those who feed the Word of God to you and to those who are putting God's Word out in the world? Have you ever thanked God for your parents who have been given Biblical oversight over you? When was the last time you thanked God for your helpmate or for your husband? When was the last time you thanked God for His provision?

Express Your Gratitude!

Honor

"Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country," were the words of President John F. Kennedy on his Inauguration Day in 1961. Before and after those words were spoken, many Americans have served their country with great honor. Every November we remember those who have served, we commemorate those who sacrificed for us. Veterans Day is a special day to recognize those brave soldiers who are still with us and honor them for their dedication.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Chronicles 15:1-16:6	1 Chronicles 16:7-43	2 Chronicles 17:1-27	2 Chronicles 34:1-21	2 Chronicles 34:22-33	2 Chronicles 35:1-19	Psalm 84

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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