



ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

We are coming to the end of the summer with only two more weeks left. Hopefully this has been a summer of growth both as a Christian and as a player. It is only fitting that we begin to reflect on the summer and who we are grateful for. There are those who have made this a great summer, maybe our host family, GM, coaches, fans or teammates. There are people we need to begin to thank. As a believer we should live every day with an attitude of gratitude.

There are many things we need to be grateful for each day.

This week we will study the importance of living our lives with an attitude of gratitude every day!

Sunday: Read Psalms 100:1-5

Of all the Psalms of praise and thanksgiving, Psalm 100, is probably the most well-known. Let the words of the Psalmist take root in each of our hearts.

1. **How are we to worship the Lord?**
2. **How do we know the Lord is God?**
3. **Why should we be thankful?**

Monday: Read Psalm 118: 1-29

The psalmist spends these verses in showing us why we should be thankful to God. Read this Psalm once then reread it slowly concentrating on making this Psalm our song and prayer for this day.

List everything in the first 14 verses for which we should be thankful.

1. **What is our responsibility to God's goodness to us in verse 17?**
2. **What does verse 24 remind us to do each day?**
3. **How does God's love endure forever?**

Tuesday: Read Matthew 15:29-39

This is the second time Jesus fed the masses of people. The first was over 5,000, this event over 4,000. Jesus provides for our needs in such a way that we should be grateful. This day Jesus not only fed the masses, He also healed the sick.

- 1. Describe a time Jesus did something amazing for us?**
- 2. What was the result of Jesus healing the sick? Should we do the same?**
- 3. Think of a time Jesus provided for our needs? How did we respond to Him?**

Wednesday: Read Luke 17:11-18

In today's lesson we find Jesus on the way to Jerusalem for the last time. He is on the way to die on a cross for the sins of the world. As Jesus was going into a village, He was approached by 10 men who were lepers. These men were cut off from society. They could have no interaction at all with anyone except fellow lepers. If lepers came across others they had to yell in a loud voice "unclean" so people would not approach them. That is why they stood at a distance and called to Jesus instead of coming to Him. They asked Jesus to have pity on them, to heal them. Jesus told them to go into the village and show themselves to the priest. The priest would then see they were healed and give them a clean bill of health enabling them to return to society and a normal life.

One of the lepers noticed his healing and came back to Jesus, fell at His feet, and thanked Him. An interesting footnote to the story, the one who came back was a Samaritan. Jesus asked an interesting question, I thought there were 10 of you, where are the other nine? The Samaritan was told that his faith had made him well.

Doesn't it strike you as odd that only one came back to Jesus? Why if it was us we would have thanked Him for healing us from a disease there was no known cure. We would have been like the Samaritan right? We would have fallen down at the feet of Jesus and praised Him, thanked Him.

- 1. How many times has God done something for us and we neglected to say thank you? How about all the times we fail to thank those who have really been there for us or done something for us? Far too many times, if we are honest, we are more like the nine than the Samaritan.**
- 2. Did Jesus answer the plea from the lepers? When was the last time Jesus answered our plea for help?**

3. Describe a time when Jesus intervened for us and answered a prayer. Were we more like the Samaritan or the nine in how we responded?
4. Make a list of all Christ has done for us, and thank Him after each item.
5. Why is it important not to forget to say thank you?
6. Who do we need to thank today?

Thursday: Read Daniel 2: 14-23

Daniel asked God to help him to interpret a dream that Nebuchadnezzar had that his wise men could not interpret. Daniel pleaded for a chance to interpret the dream, so that the lives of the wise men of Babylon might be spared. Found in these verses are the praise given to God for answering Daniel's prayer.

1. Describe a time God answered a prayer.
2. Did we take the time to praise God as Daniel did when we received our answered prayer? How did we do so?
3. Make a blessings list of all God has done and thank Him for His love and care.

Friday: Read Philippians 1:3-6

Paul dearly loved the Philippians. He made it a habit to pray for them. Paul received a great deal of joy in praying for others.

1. Who are the people we are grateful for in our lives?
2. Take time now to pray for each of them, thanking God for bringing them into our lives.
3. Pray specifically that God would help each of those we prayed for and are grateful for to reach their potential for Him.

Saturday: Read Ephesians 5:15-20

Paul gives us some good advice in daily living in these verses. Read them slowly and take in the lessons God wishes to teach us today about not only living but Thanks living!

- 1. Why is it important for us to live wisely?**
- 2. How do we understand God's will? Hint verse 18b**
- 3. What are we to give thanks to God in our lives?**