

How to Be Thankful

November 23, 2025

- I. **Introduction**
 - A. Some stories
 - a. Psalm 115:3
 - b. Daniel 4:25, 37
 - c. Job 42:2
- II. **Overview**
 - A. We are commanded by God to be thankful
 - 1. Philippians 4:6
 - 2. I Thessalonians 5:18
 - B. We usually are not thankful because:
 - 1. We do not think we deserve the troubles we have
 - 2. We believe we have earned better than we have
 - C. Old Testament
 - 1. Except for Psalms, the Old Testament is painfully absent of praise and thanksgiving
 - 2. Israel had a real problem with being thankful
 - a. See Exodus 16:2, 8; 17:5; Leviticus 7:11-16
- III. **The Process of Becoming Thankful**
 - A. Understand:
 - 1. God's love
 - a. Jeremiah 31:3
 - b. Hosea 11:8, 9
 - c. Romans 8:35-39
 - 2. God's wisdom
 - a. Psalm 147:4, 5
 - b. Daniel 2:20b " . . . *for wisdom and power belong to Him*"
 - 3. God's power
 - a. Jeremiah 32:17
 - 4. God's faithfulness
 - a. Lamentations 3:22, 23
 - B. Believe in and accept God's sovereignty
 - 1. The fact of it
 - a. Psalm 115:3
 - b. Daniel 4:25, 37
 - c. Job 42:2
 - 2. Examples of it
 - a. Esther: Esther 4:13, 14
 - b. Jesus and Judas: John 6:70
 - 3. Some who understood it
 - a. Joseph: Genesis 45:5-8; 50:19-21
 - b. Paul: Philippians 4:10-13
 - C. Understand and accept God's grace (II Corinthians 9:8-15)
 - 1. God is able – He is the supplier – vs. 8-10a; 14
 - 2. When you let God meet your needs it produces:
 - 3. Righteousness – v. 10b
 - 4. Thanksgiving to God – vs. 11, 12 and 15
 - 5. Glory to God – v. 13
 - D. A personal word
 - 1. Why I am thankful
 - 2. For whom I am thankful