

Perspective

- Our Worldview –

- Half Full?

- Half Empty?




Perspective

- *And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. Luke 22:44*
- *offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear Heb 5:7*
- *who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, Heb 12:2*




How Did Jesus Do This?

- *looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Heb 12:2*
 - What Changed His perspective?
 - Faith / Love / Honor / Respect / Reverence
 - These emotions overruled the others.
- 



The Joy Set Before Him

- Faith – He trusted God (*I commend My Spirit*)
 - Love – *Greater love –lay down life for friends*
 - Honor – *Name above every name.*
 - Respect/Reverence – *Your will be done.*
 - Gratitude – For all God has done ...
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What About Us?

- *Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." Mt. 11:28-30*
- Is this truly our perspective?

Week After Week

- Sermons:
- Duty, Obligation, Sacrifice.
- Buffet Body
- Forgetting Behind ... Pressing on to Ahead.
- Adding on our part ...
- Cut it off ... Pluck it out ... Resist unto blood.
- Not forsaking our assembling together.
- Duty, Obligation, Responsibility Etc. Ect. Ect.

Week After Week

- *Let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Gal 6:9-10*
- *Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. Phil 2:12-13*

Week After Week

- Positive preaching or Negative preaching?
- Depends on our perspective.
- If we are filled with the emotions that moved our Lord,
- All obligations are positive preaching.
- With these emotions – every lesson that helps us grow is welcomed.
- Because we are grateful we can't do enough.

Are We Thankful?

How is gratitude created?

Spontaneous Gratitude

Birth of Child;

Great blessing

Salvation from Sin

Health after illness

Answered prayer

Escape from death

Planned Gratitude

for a meal

For our blessings

for good Health

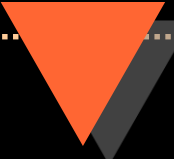

for promises



Planned Gratitude


- *“I will extol You, my God, O King; and I will bless Your name forever and ever. 2 Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever and ever. 3 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable. 4 One generation shall praise Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts. 5 I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works. 6 Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts, and I will declare Your greatness” Ps. 145:1-6*

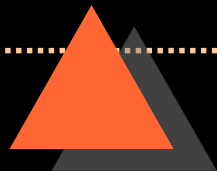
God is concerned!

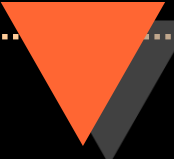
- Gratitude is a critical emotion!
- He seeks to train us
- Are we listening?
- A constant sense of indebtedness and appreciation for His gifts!

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- *Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,*
Eph. 5:20
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- *And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. Col 3:15*
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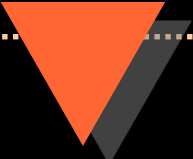

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- *And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful... Col 3:17*

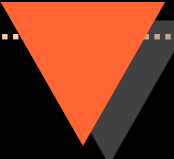



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- *pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

1Th 5:17-18



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- *Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. Heb 13:15*
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- 
- *Giving thanks always for all things*
 - *continually offer*
 - *be thankful...* *giving thanks*
 - *18 in everything* *give thanks;*
for this is the will of God
 - **ARE WE?**
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Without Gratitude

- Everything becomes a burden!
- *For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Rom 1:21*

Perspective

- Our Service to God



- A Burden?

- A Blessing



Give Thanks to the LORD

- *Oh, give thanks to the LORD ! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples! 2 Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works! 3 Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the Lord ! 4 Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore! 5 Remember His marvelous works which He has done, His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth, Ps 105*

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- *Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands! 2 Serve the LORD with gladness; come before His presence with singing. 3 Know that the LORD, He is God; it is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. 4 Enter into His gates with Thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. 5 For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations. Ps 100:1-5*
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Are We Giving Thanks?

- *Bless the Lord , O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name!*
- *2 Bless the Lord , O my soul, And forget not all His benefits:*
- *Who forgives all your iniquities,*
- *Who heals all your diseases,*
- *4 Who redeems your life from destruction,*
- *Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,*
- *5 Who satisfies your mouth with good things*
- *Ps 103:1-5*
- *Are we thankful for these things?*