



“Giving Back to God”

Thanksgiving - celebrating the harvest and other blessings of the past year.

1 Thessalonians 5: 16 -18 Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1. Situation

Although Thanksgiving has **historical roots in religious and cultural traditions**, it has long been celebrated as a secular holiday. It is a perfect thing to remember what the Lord has done. But, the problem is how we are keeping this particular holiday determines which God we are serving.

Hebrews 10:8 - When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law)

How are we honouring or giving back to the one who has supplied all our needs?

Philippians 4: 19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Application

They are **Day By Day activities** that we must keep in our daily life, **representing our way of giving back to God**. They express our **attitudes and gratitude** to God as we all remember what He has done in our lives:

1. **A Daily Sanctification. Consecration.** "Daily sanctification offering". **Joshua 3:5**
Then Joshua said to the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.” This is the attitude of the saint maintained as a result of the act of **consecration in surrender**.
2. **A Daily Worship. Thanksgiving.** "Daily shall He be praised". **Psalms 72:15** - *Long may he live; may gold of Sheba be given to him. May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all the day.* The essence of worship is praise to the Lord for what He is and does.
3. **A Daily Supplication. Need Expressed.** “ **Psalms 86:3** - *Be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all the day* / - “Give us this day our daily bread" (Matt. 6: 11).
Prayer is the channel which keeps us in touch with God's supplies.

4. **A Daily Vigilance. Alertness.** "Watching daily at My gates" - **Proverbs 8:34**
Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. **Watching for His leading and watching against our enemies.**
5. **A Daily Cross. Denial Of Self.** "Take up his Cross daily and follow Me". **Luke 9:23** -
And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. **Following Christ in the denial of self, and in doing God's will.**
6. **A Daily Searching. Tracking.** "Searched the Scriptures daily". - **Acts 17:11** - *Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.*
Following on the trail of God's game till we catch the things of the Spirit and make them our own.
7. **A Daily Dying. Co-crucifixion.** "I die daily" - **1 Corinthians 15. 31** - *I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day.*
Reckoning we are dead with Christ, we are prepared to die for Him, and to die in Him.
8. **A Daily Care. Duty.** "That which cometh upon me daily: the care of all the churches" **2 Corinthians 11:28** - *And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.* **Duty fulfilled is blessing secured.**
9. **A Daily Exhortation. Helpfulness.** "Exhort one another daily". **Hebrews 3:13** - *But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.* **Love is concerned about the welfare of others.**