

GIVE THANKS TO THE LIVING GOD - Kahu Billy Mitchell, November 19, 2023

Giving thanks to God is the very power of the children of the living God! Amen!

Psalm 92:1-2 NIV *It is good to give thanks to the Lord, And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;*

²To declare Your loving kindness in the morning, And Your faithfulness every night,

Giving thanks to God completes the circle of God's intention to answer our prayers and bless us till our cups runneth over! The wisdom of God is that we infuse our deepest gratitude to Him in every: prayer, song, hymn, and request for all our issues of life!

Philippians 4:4-7 NIV ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 3:16 NASB Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, *and spiritual* songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Every single request is best finished with "mahalo iā 'oe ke Akua!" "Thank You Lord!" Even before it is granted!!!! Thankful people are a strong and confident people - that their God exists, that God has sent his Son Jesus to save them from their sins, that God loves them; that their God has forgiven them of all their iniquity, that their God answers their prayer requests, that God has everything under His control, that God is always blessing his people even when we cannot see his blessings!

The Prayer in Colossians 1: 11b-12 NIV . . . joyously ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Thanksgiving to God intensifies from thanksgiving . . . to praise . . . to worship . . . to service!

THANKSGIVING . . . Psalm 95:2-3 ESV ² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! ³ For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

PRAISE . . . Jeremiah 17:14 NIV Heal me, Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for [BUT] you are the one I praise.

WORSHIP . . . John 4:23-26 NIV ²³Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

²⁵The woman said, "I know that Messiah" [called Christ] "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." ²⁶Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he." [Thank You Father that you have sent Your Son!]

SERVICE . . . Romans 12:1 NIV Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

Joshua 24:15 NIV ¹⁵But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Now let me conclude with these words from the psalmist: **Psalm 100:1-5 NIV** ¹ Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. ² Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. ³ Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. ⁵ For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. AMENE