

Meditating on Thankfulness Kimo Hoopai, November 6, 2022

Thankfulness should be a habit, something taught at a young age it was a life lesson not really knowing it came from the word of God. It was a daily practice in our house growing up, to be thankful for everything good. Learning this word thankful was drilled into our lives. It was explained and taught well by parents and grandparents. They didn't have much, but whatever they had they were thankful for. Being thankful wasn't just on Thanksgiving Day it was everyday.

1. Making Thankfulness a Habit

1 Thessalonians 5:18 NIV give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Notes: Paul was not teaching that we should thank God for everything that happens to us but in everything that happens to us. Evil does not come from God so we shouldn't thank him for it. But when evil strikes, we can still be thankful for God's presence and for the good he will accomplish through the distress

Psalm 92:1 KJV It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High.

Notes: Thanks should be on our lips everyday. We can never say thank you enough to parents, friends, leaders, and especially God. When you make thankfulness a part of your life it becomes a habit.

2. Practice Thankfulness

Psalm 118 :24 ESV This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Colossians 3:15 -16 NIV ¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Notes: Paul tells us to let Christ's peace be and umpire or referee in our hearts. Our hearts are the center of conflict because there our feelings and desires clash- our fears and hopes, distrust and trust, jealousy and love. How can we deal with these types of conflicts and live as God wants? Paul explains that we must resolve conflicting issues by using the rule of peace. Thankful people can worship wholeheartedly.

Psalm 107:1 NIV Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

3. Being Thankful

Philippians 4:12-13 NIV ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

2 Corinthians 4:15-16 NIV ¹⁵ All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. ¹⁶ Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

In closing: Be Thankful everyday for all what God has blessed us with: the breath of life, family, friends, our MCO family but more thankful to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for having that freedom to serve him. Amenitatin