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11/28/2017

DEVELOPING AN "ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE"

(Psalm 8:1-9)

INTRODUCTION: for Christians, everyday is a day of thanksgiving.

We are taught to be thankful by admonition: (Col. 2:7, 3:15, 3:17, 4:2;
Eph. 5:20; 1 Thess. 5:18)

We are taught by example:

Jesus - (Matt. 26:26-27) "and gave thanks"

David - (Psalm 100:4) "be thankful unto Him"

Daniel - (Dan. 6:10) "and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime"

Paul - (Acts 27:35; Phil. 1:3)

HOW DO WE BECOME A THANKFUL PEOPLE?

1. REMEMBER NOT TO FORGET

(Psalm 103:2) "forget not all His benefits"

Story of Joseph and the butler: (Gen. 40:14, 23)

(Luke 17:17) "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine?"

2. DO NOT MAJOR ON YOUR TROUBLES

Count your blessings, not your blights and bruises.

Firmly believe: (Rms. 8:28) "all things work together for good ..."

3. DO NOT CONCENTRATE ON WHAT YOU DO NOT HAVE

(1 Tim. 6:8) "and having food and raiment let us be therewith content"

(Heb. 13:5) "be content with such things as ye have"

4. CONSIDER HOW DESTEATABLE INGRATITUDE REALLY IS

(Rms. 1:21) "neither were thankful" is in the list of horrible things.

(2 Tim. 3:1-5) "unthankful" is included in the list of perilous times.

5. PRACTICE EXPRESSING YOUR GRATITUDE

By your words: (1 Thess. 5:18; Eph. 5:20)

By your life: (Psalm 116:12)

6. DO NOT TAKE COMMONPLACE THINGS OF LIFE FOR GRANTED

7. AVOID OVER-EMPHASIZING THE LUXURIES OF LIFE

(Luke 12:15) "a man's life consists not in the abundance of things he possesses"

8. DO AWAY WITH MURMURING & COMPLAINING: (1 Cor. 10:10; Phil. 2:14)

9. WE ARE A RECIPIENT OF SPIRITUAL THINGS; DON'T FORGET THE GIVER

Pray, "God, give me a thankful heart."