

# **Beyond The Sermon**

A Sermon Application Guide

## **Title: The Power of Thankfulness**

This guide is designed to offer a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own, or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

### **Message Theme & Prayer Focus**

The Power Of Thanksgiving

*“Father, thank you for the truth in your word. Thank you for being the same yesterday, today, and forever. Thank you for loving me, redeeming me, and wanting to move in my life. Teach me what it looks like for me to be thankful in each season of my life, when things are good and when I am in seasons of waiting. Father, your goodness is overflowing in my life and for that I am grateful. Amen!”*

### **Key Concepts/Truths**

God's will for you is that you're grateful and thankful, not just when things are good, but in all things at all times.

Even when things are not good, our God is.

A lack of thankfulness leads to losing our sense of purpose.

Thanksgiving is a pathway into God's presence and having an attitude of thanksgiving helps to check our pride at the door.

Whenever we compare, we lose. God's gifts for you are different than they are for someone else. Consistently looking at the things that we don't have hinders a heart of thankfulness.

There may be things in your life that aren't going right, but there's always things that you can be thankful for.

Praise is the expression of a thankful heart, they are connected. Thankfulness opens the spiritual realm of blessing.

True joy is not getting what you want, but being thankful for what you have.

Noticing envy in your life gives you an opportunity to change your direction and grow in the area of thankfulness.

In the book of Nehemiah, when Ezra laid the foundation for the rebuilding of the temple, they praised God. The foundation was only 10% of the project but they entered into praise.

### **Key Verses:**

Thessalonians 5:18 • Colossians 2:7 • Psalms 100:4 • Hebrews 13:15 • Habakkuk 3:17-19 • Romans 2:15

### **Daily Applications**

We know that thankfulness doesn't always come easy but it is a vital part of walking with God. Taking the time to realize that even in the areas we can't control and the life events we didn't have planned, God is still good, still moving, and still undefeated.

Are you living a lifestyle of thanking God for the things He has already done and has blessed you with? How can we practically start to cultivate a heart of thankfulness today and this week?

Here is something to put into practice to create the habit of a thankful heart:

- Make a list of 20-50 things that you are thankful for
- Everyday until Thanksgiving, read your list and spend time thanking God.

Our King longs for a relationship with us and having a thankful heart keeps us connected to Him and keeps us focused on where He is moving in our lives.

### **This Week's Declarations**

Thank you for being the same yesterday, today, and forever. Thank you for loving me, redeeming me, and wanting to move in my life. Teach me what it looks like for me to be thankful in each season of my life, when things are good and when I am in seasons of waiting. Father, your goodness is overflowing in my life and for that I am grateful. You are good, and I trust you.

## **What's Next?**

Now it's time to write down anything that the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, Thank Him and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.

## **Scripture References The Power of Thankfulness**

### **1 Thessalonians 5:18 KJV**

In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

### **Colossians 2:7 NKJV**

...rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

### **Psalm 100:4 NKJV**

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving...

### **Psalm 100:4 NKJV**

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

### **Psalm 100:3 NKJV**

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.

### **Hebrews 13:15 NKJV**

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.

### **Habakkuk 3:17-19 NKJV**

Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls— Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills.

### **Deuteronomy 8:18 NKJV**

“And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.”

### **John 10:10 NKJV**

I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

### **Ecclesiastes 4:4 NKJV**

Again, I saw that for all toil and every skillful work a man is envied by his neighbor.

### **Romans 12:15 NKJV**

Rejoice with those who rejoice...

### **James 3:16 NKJV**

For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.

### **2 Corinthians 10:12 NKJV**

For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

### **John 21:17-25 NKJV**

He said to him the third time, “Simon, *son of Jonah*, do you love Me?” Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?” And he said to Him, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.” Jesus said to him, “Feed My sheep. Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry *you* where you do not wish.” This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, “Follow Me.” Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, “Lord, who is the one who betrays You?” Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, “But Lord, what *about* this man?” Jesus said to him, “If I will that he remain till I come, what *is that* to you? You follow Me.” Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, “If I will that he remain till I come, what *is that* to you?” This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if

they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

**Romans 1:20 NKJV**

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

**Romans 1:21 NKJV**

...because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

**Romans 1:22-23 KJV**

And changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four footed beasts, and creeping things.

**Romans 1:24-26 NKJV**

Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason God gave them up to vile passions.

**Psalms 69:30 NKJV**

...And will magnify Him with thanksgiving.

**Psalms 142:4 NKJV**

No one cares for my soul.

**Psalms 142:5 NKJV**

I cried out to You, O Lord: I said, "You are my refuge, My portion in the land of the living.

**Psalms 23:5 NKJV**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

**Psalms 142:7 NKJV**

Bring my soul out of prison, That I may praise Your name;

**2 Corinthians 8:12 NKJV**

For if there is first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have.

**Proverbs 15:15 NKJV**

But he who is of a merry heart has a continual feast.

**2 Timothy 3:2 Renner**

Although they were once thankful and appreciative, people will become void of gratitude and generally unappreciative of everything in the last times. As a result, impurity will seep into society.

**1 Thessalonians 5:18 NKJV**

...in everything give thanks;

**Hosea 8:4 NKJV**

“They set up kings, but not by Me; They made princes, but I did not acknowledge *them*. From their silver and gold They made idols for themselves— That they might be cut off.

**Proverbs 31:10 NKJV**

Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies.

**Proverbs 31:28-29 NKJV**

Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her: “Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all.”

**Isaiah 61:1-3 NKJV**

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;