

Gratitude: Living A Life of Thankfulness
“THANKSGIVING in capital letters”

Colossians 2:6-7
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Hope City Church

→ Do you remember the “magic words” your parents taught you to say when you were little?

The person of faith living for Jesus should live a life overflowing with thanksgiving

1. The **MEANING** of “overflowing” with thanksgiving
WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO OVERFLOW?

- Lk 15:17 But when he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired men have **more than enough** bread, but I am dying here with hunger!
- John 6:13 So they gathered them up, and **filled** twelve baskets with fragments

2. The **MARK** of spiritual maturity is “overflowing with thanksgiving”
WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO OVERFLOW?

→ Note the key words here:

- “I am...rejoicing to see your good discipline and the **STABILITY** of your faith in Christ (v5)
- “having been firmly **ROOTED** and now being **BUILT UP** in Him and **ESTABLISHED** in your faith” (v7)

3. The **MANIFESTATION** of “overflowing” with thanksgiving
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO OVERFLOW?

→ consider these examples:

- Exodus 15:1-2 Moses after crossing the Red Sea
- Luke 17:11-19 the leper after Jesus healed him
- Acts 16:22-25 Paul and Silas in jail

SO WHAT? NOW WHAT? TAKING IT HOME!!

→ WHY should the believer’s life be overflowing with thanksgiving?

1. God C_____ me to be thankful-
1 Thess 5:18 “in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus”
2. It acknowledges the G_____ that someone gave (time, action, service)
3. It strengthens R_____ . . .
it adds V_____,
it creates closeness/intimacy—without it, relationships D_____
4. it’s a gift that keeps on G_____ . . .
a genuine expression of thanksgiving makes a lasting impact
5. It encourages R_____ action

→ WHY DON’T our lives overflow with thanksgiving?

1. Too B_____
2. Take it for G_____
3. We feel thankful, but don’t S_____
4. it’s not M_____

HERE’S THE PLAN:

1. I want to challenge us to become people of **ABOUNDING/OVERFLOWING GRATITUDE**

A. A_____ thanks from others

B. E_____ freely to others: Unexpressed thanks is NO thanks

C. L___ people who have touched/blessed your life ... impacted & made a difference

D. Fill your prayer-life with thanks... to God and for others

2. Ask yourself every day:

WHO CAN I BLESS TODAY WITH OVERFLOWING GRATITUDE?

→ PRAYER: Lord help me to _____