

living a life of

four week teaching series

THANKSGIVNG with

capital letters

thankfulness



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



- 1. The **MEANING** of "overflowing with thanksgiving"
- 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)



- 1. The **MEANING** of "overflowing" with thanksgiving"
- The MARK of spiritual maturity is "overflowing with thanksgiving"
- 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



- → WHY should the believer's life be overflowing with thanksgiving?
- 1. God Commands 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 <u>Gift</u> that someone gave (time, action, service)



- 3. It strengthens Relationships. . . it adds <u>Value</u>, it creates closeness/intimacy—without it, relationships <u>Deteriorate</u>
- 4. It's a gift that keeps on Giving. . . a genuine expression of thanksgiving makes a lasting impact
- GRATITUDE Courages Repeat action

- → WHY DON'T our lives overflow with thanksgiving?
- Too <u>busy</u>: note what someone has done but move on . . . not take time to say "thank you"
- 2. Take it for granted: I deserve it, it's to be expected, it's a normal part of life
- 3. We feel thankful, but don't say it
- 4. It's not modeled . . . No examples



- → I want to challenge us to become people of ABUNDANT THANKSGIVING...

  OVER THE TOP GRATITUDE!!
  - A. Accept thanks from others
  - B. Express freely to others:
  - C. List people who have touched/blessed your life ... impacted & made a difference
- GRATIFUE your prayer-life with thanks...
  living a life of thankfulness to God and for others

