

International Christian Fellowship of Oulu Worship Meeting / Message



Date & Time: 30.11.2008 at 15.30

Place: Chapel of St. Luke

Sermon: Thanksgiving

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Thanksgiving- Psalm 101

- Giving thanks means showing appreciation, praise and adoration to God not just in church alone but in everyday life
- When we praise God, we forget our pride, fear or anything that interferes with our worship of God. An attitude of Gratitude unlocks God's heart

Reasons to thank God

1. Call to worship- Psalm 95¹⁻², 100⁴⁻⁵. It ensures an unhindered access to God because 1) God inhabits the praise of His people, 2) it is a switch to turn on God's attention and unlock the key to God's door
2. When in need – Phil 4⁴⁻⁷, Psalm 119¹⁶⁴, Psalm 55¹⁷, Psalm 34¹. When we appreciate what God has done for us, he trusts us to continuously give Him the glory and not man. When praise becomes our addiction, our lives will be free from afflictions and we shall enter into our possessions
3. God expects us to thank Him – Psalm 50¹⁴⁻¹⁵, 22²⁵, Luke 17¹¹⁻¹⁹
4. We magnify God with our thanksgiving – We draw people to God's goodness and enrich their lives. We give them hope and minister unto unbelievers
5. Thanksgiving breaks shackles – Acts 16²⁵⁻²⁶

When we complain, rather than appreciate what God has done for us, we risk getting him angry- Numbers 11 1. Sometimes, what we need is a change of attitude and perception in order to visualize the positives and suppress the negative things in our lives. The joy of the Lord is our strength, the devil knows this and he tries to take away our joy, hence, our strength.

Write down 5 things to be thankful to God for daily and count your blessings all through the day, when negative emotions come, which is usual, refer to your list of things to thank God for and glorify Him FOR WHAT He has done and what He has in store for you.