

“The Attitude of Gratitude”

Greg Wendschlag Nov. 18, 2018

“Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs.

Know that the LORD is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the LORD is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.” Ps 100

Why is Giving Thanks So Important?

1. Thankfulness focuses on what **you have** instead of what you don't have.
2. Thankfulness causes you to **embrace the blessing** instead of the pain.
3. Thankfulness brings **perspective** to every experience.
4. Thankfulness causes you to **evaluate** every situation.

Principles of an Attitude of Gratitude

1. What **we know** about God impacts our attitude.
 - The Lord is God
 - God made us
 - We belong to Him
 - He is good
 - His love endures forever
 - His faithfulness extends through all generations
2. The right attitude produces a **joyful life**.
 - Shout for joy
 - Worship with gladness
 - Sing joyful songs to Him
 - Enter His gates with thanksgiving and praise
 - Give thanks and praise His name

How to Develop an Attitude of Gratitude

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:6-7

1. Choose to **avoid anxiety**
 2. Choose to **pray**
 3. Pray with **thanksgiving**
 4. Two minute Thanksgiving vitamin – slide 6
- Praise God for what you have.
 - Praise God for what He has done.
 - Praise God for where He has put you.

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think, say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company, a church or a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we embrace for that day. We cannot change our past; we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you. We are in charge of our attitudes" Chuck Swindoll