

Ephesians Series

Lesson #244

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Giving Thanks
Ephesians 5:20



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Ephesians 4:1–6:9
How the Believer is to Live Life
The Five Walking Commands

Walk as Wise (Ephesians 5:15–6:9)

Eph. 5:15, “See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,”

**Commanded to be filled by means of the Spirit (Eph. 5:18)
resulting in:**

- **Emphasis on worship through singing (Eph. 5:19);**
- **Gratitude to God for all things (Eph. 5:20);**
- **Mutual submission to live in harmony (Eph. 5:21);**
- **Family life (Eph. 5:22–6:9)**

Eph. 5:15, “**See** then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,

Eph. 5:16, “[by] redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Eph. 5:17, “Therefore **do not be** unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Eph. 5:18, “And **do not be drunk** with wine, in which is dissipation; but **be filled** with the Spirit, ...”

Eph. 5:18, “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but **be filled with the Spirit,”**

πληρόω plēroō
**2 plur pres pass
imperative
to fill; fulfill**

*ἐν πνεύματι,
en pneumati,
dative,
means, “by
means of
the Spirit”*

Results:

Eph. 5:19, “with the result that you are speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Eph. 5:20, “with the result that you are giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Eph. 5:21, “with the result that you are submitting to one another in the fear of God.”

Col. 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

Col. 3:17, “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Col. 3:18, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”

1 Thess. 5:18, “in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” [NKJV]

Eph. 5:20, “with the result that we give thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,” [RD]

Two key passages to remember in relation to gratitude in adverse circumstances:

Gen. 50:20, “ ‘But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.’ ”

Two key passages to remember in relation to gratitude in adverse circumstances:

Rom. 8:28, “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”

Eph. 5:20, “with the result that you are giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,”

**πάντοτε; *pantote (pas)*,
adverb (says something
about the verb, “give
thanks”)**

**πάς *pas*
Adjective
neut plur gen
all, every; the whole,
every situation,
circumstance, person**

**εὐχαριστέω *eucharisteō*
pres act part masc plur
nom**

**Adverbial participle of
result with a note of an
imperative.**

**“to give thanks, be thankful
or grateful”**

There are Four Kinds of Prayer

C-A-T-S

- * Confession**
- * Adoration or praise**
- * Thanks**
- * Supplication: to ask in humility**
- * Intercession**

Eph. 5:20, “with the result that you are giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,”

a. Prayer is always to be directed to God the Father.

This is true in all of Paul’s prayers.

**Matt. 6:9, “ ‘Therefore, you should pray like this
“Our Father in heaven, Your name be revered and set
apart.” ’ ”**

Eph. 5:20, “with the result that you are giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,”

b. All believers are “in Christ.” We come to the Father through Him and on the basis of His High-Priestly work.

John 14:13, “And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

John 14:14, “If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

Eph. 5:20, “with the result that you are giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,”

b. All believers are “in Christ.” We come to the Father through Him and on the basis of His High-Priestly work.

Heb. 2:17, “Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.”

Where should we look for examples of gratitude toward God?

Thanks in the Old Testament

The word

2ָּ־יָדָה׳ *yadah*-2

hif imperf 1 com sing

“to praise, confess”

Used over 100 times in the Hebrew Scriptures.

First time:

**Gen. 49:8, “Judah, you are he whom your brothers shall praise;
Your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; Your father’s
children shall bow down before you.”**

Where should we look for examples of gratitude toward God?

Looking at some of Paul's expressions of gratitude.

Rom. 1:8, “First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.

Rom. 1:9, “For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers,”

Rom. 16:3, “Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,

Rom. 16:4, “who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.”

1 Cor. 1:4, “I thank my God [I give thanks to my God] always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you in Christ Jesus, [NAS]

1 Cor. 1:5, “that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance [words] and all knowledge,”

Eph. 1:15, “Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,

Eph. 1:16, “do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:

Eph. 1:17, “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,”

Principle of Prayer: Giving thanks to God the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ

Eph. 5:20, “giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,”

Php. 1:3, “I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,

Php. 1:4, “always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy,

Php. 1:5, “for your fellowship [participation, partnership] in the gospel from the first day until now,”

1 Thess. 1:2, “We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers,

1 Thess. 1:3, “remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father,”

1 Thess. 2:13, “For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

1 Thess. 2:14, “For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they did from the Judeans,

1 Thess. 2:15, “who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they do not please God and are contrary to all men,”

2 Thess. 1:2, “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Thess. 1:3, “We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other,

2 Thess. 1:4, “so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure,

2 Thess. 1:5, “which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer;”

2 Thess. 2:13, “But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,”

Philem. 4, “I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers,

Philem. 5, “because I hear of your love and of the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints;

Philem. 6, “and I pray that the fellowship of your faith may become effective through the knowledge of every good thing which is in you for Christ’s sake.”

Rom. 1:20, “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,

Rom. 1:21, “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.

Rom. 1:22, “Professing to be wise, they became fools,”

Summary Points on Prayer

- 1. Paul always prays to God the Father, through, or in the name of, Jesus Christ. He never directs His prayers to Jesus or the Holy Spirit (you will notice that a number of hymns do this—sometimes it is ambiguous with the title Lord, and sometimes a little literary license is extended).**

2. When Paul is writing and includes someone, he always includes them in the prayers. The only exception was Philippians. In 7 of Paul's 13 epistles he expresses thanks (excluding personal letters).