

giving thanks

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

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EVEN WHEN IT DOES NOT MAKE SENSE

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

¹⁶ Rejoice always;

¹⁷ pray without ceasing;

**¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is
God's will for you in Christ Jesus.**

INTRODUCTION

It's easy to **give thanks
when things are going well
for us.**

INTRODUCTION

Giving thanks when we are
going through a difficult
time is difficult.

INTRODUCTION

**The bible tells us that
we are to **give thanks**
in EVERYTHING.**

ROAD MAP

- i) **What** Does It Mean To Give Thanks In Everything
- ii) **Why** Should We Give Thanks When It Does Not Make Sense
- iii) **How** Do We Give Thanks When We Don't Feel Like It

i) **What** Does It Mean To
Give Thanks In Everything

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**There are things in life for which
we simply cannot find any reason
to be **thankful** for.**

EPHESIANS 5:20

**we are to always give thanks for all things
in the name of our Lord
Jesus Christ to God**

i) **What** Does It Mean To **Give Thanks In Everything**

It means to **give thanks** for things
which accord with God's nature
and commands.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

**¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is
God's will for you in Christ Jesus.**

EPHESIANS 5:20

**we are to always give thanks for all things
in the name of our Lord
Jesus Christ to God**

i) **What** Does It Mean To **Give Thanks In Everything**

**We should not be giving thanks
FOR the bad things that happen
to us, but we can give thanks IN
the midst of going through
something bad.**

i) **What** Does It Mean To **Give Thanks In Everything**

GIVE THANKS

- **for His abiding presence and comfort.**
- **that He will see us through.**
- **for what He is going to accomplish.**

ROMANS 8:28

“God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

i) **What** Does It Mean To **Give Thanks In Everything**

**There are lessons which cannot
be taught and wisdom we cannot
gain without going through
suffering and hardship.**

i) **What** Does It Mean To **Give Thanks In Everything**

To **give thanks** in everything means to **give thanks** in every situation that God has allowed us to go through and every circumstance that God has placed us in.

i) **What** Does It Mean To **Give Thanks In Everything**

He is with us.

i) **What** Does It Mean To Give Thanks In Everything

He is with us.

He will strengthen us.

i) **What** Does It Mean To Give Thanks In Everything

He is with us.

He will strengthen us.

**He will cause
all things to work for good.**

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

**in everything give thanks;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.**

We are to **give thanks in everything
“for it is God's will for us in Jesus Christ.”**

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

**The Thessalonian church was
suffering serious persecution.**

**To this community, Paul says to them,
give thanks in everything,
for it is God's will for us.**

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

**God wants us to
give thanks in everything.**

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

Important Foundational Truth

God is right here with us.

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

Important Foundational Truth

**God is with us,
regardless of how we feel.**

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

Giving thanks
helps us to be aware
of His loving presence.

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

Giving thanks
enable us to hold on to the promise
that He will give us strength and
carry us through.

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

Giving thanks
enable us to anchor ourselves
in the truth that God has a purpose.

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

**We can trust that whatever
we are going through is God fulfilling
His purpose in our lives and
through our lives.**

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

**Being aware of His presence and
being anchored in His promise will
enable us to submit to His will.**

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

**God has a purpose for allowing us
to go through our adversity and
that purpose is fully achieved when
we are in submission and dependence
on Him.**

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

Giving thanks
help us to submit
even when we don't feel like it.

ii) **Why** Should We **Give Thanks**
When It Does Not Make Sense

Giving thanks
help us to trust and depend on Him
even when we don't understand why.

iii) **How** Do We **Give Thanks**
When We Don't Feel Like It

iii) **How** Do We **Give Thanks** When We Don't Feel Like It

Giving thanks
is an act of obedience to
God.

iii) **How** Do We **Give Thanks** When We Don't Feel Like It

**True obedience
takes place when we obey,
in spite of how we feel.**

iii) **How** Do We **Give Thanks** When We Don't Feel Like It

**Not denying how we feel and
being unauthentic.**

iii) **How** Do We **Give Thanks** When We Don't Feel Like It

**It is willing ourselves to take
the step of faith and do
something which the bible tells
us to do**

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7

⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

iii) **How** Do We **Give Thanks** When We Don't Feel Like It

As God's peace begin to fill our hearts, all anxiety and fear and worry will begin to fade.

iii) **How** Do We **Give Thanks** When We Don't Feel Like It

**There is growing calm and peace in
the middle of the storm.**

iii) **How** Do We **Give Thanks** When We Don't Feel Like It

**Our focus can begin to shift
from our situation and
circumstances to the Lord.**

iii) **How** Do We **Give Thanks** When We Don't Feel Like It

**Our trust in the Lord's promises
start to grow and take root.**

iii) **How** Do We **Give Thanks** When We Don't Feel Like It

**We can submit and say
God, let Your will be done.**

CONCLUSION

Going through a difficult situation affects and changes us in profound ways.

CONCLUSION

We can become negative and cynical and bitter, or we can grow in strength, resilience, humility and maturity in God.

CONCLUSION

**Greater depth and impact in
our testimonies and witness.**

CONCLUSION

**God is right here
with us.**