

SERMON NOTES

Thanks Be To God!

Psalm 69:30-32

David, in the middle of an emotionally difficult and painful time in his life, made an _____decision to connect himself to God through worship in song and through _____. Do I do this?

As followers of Christ, our lives are to be “_____” causing God to appear as great as he really is! (Philippians 1:20)

Far too often we think we exist for ourselves (self-gratification), but the _____ of scripture is that we exist to glorify/magnify God. (Isaiah 43:7, Revelation 4:11)
We do that best by _____ and living out a life of thankfulness to God – even in the difficult, painful seasons of our lives.

Your attitude of gratitude can be your best _____ to those around you of what it means to be a follower of Christ. This, by default means, if your _____ and expressions are ungrateful, you are not being a good witness of what it means to be a follower of Christ.

NOTES



Get to know Grace Fellowship!

Our Purpose—Grace Fellowship exists to lead people into a growing, personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and to help them join God’s mission.

Our Offering - We don’t take a public offering. Rather, we have a “Offering Box” located in the lobby for tithes and offerings. Offering envelopes are available beside the “Offering Box” for those who would like a receipt for cash contributions. We trust that God will meet our financial needs through those who call *Grace* their church home.

Our Children’s Ministry - *Grace Land* is where we communicate God’s love and truth in a dynamic way that kids are able to understand. Classes for birth through 5th Grade begin at 10:00 a.m. If you are new to Grace, please go to the Grace Land check-in counter so that we can meet with you briefly to get important information about your child’s needs and preferences.

Extreme KIC- 6th (and 11 years old) - 8th grade: meets every Wednesday from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Check out our website: extremekic.wordpress.com

Ignite Student Ministries - 9th (and 14 years old) - 12th grade: meets every Wednesday from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Check out our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/IgniteGraceFellowship>

groups provide a positive opportunity to build relationships with other Christians and to grow spiritually. If you have questions, need more information or would like to connect with a Group, contact Raja Atallah at raja.gracefellowship@gmail.com



The church office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday.
For anything Grace related, please call the office at 251-368-4463 or email gracefellowshipatmore@gmail.com

The church office will be CLOSED Thursday and Friday this week in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Operation Christmas Child: THANK YOU!!!!

Our goal was to pack 1,000 shoeboxes x \$9 each = \$9,000, but you guys showed up and showed out!! We packed 1,091 shoeboxes and raised \$9,671.

Turkey Bowl (Flag Football): Men and boys 10 and up, join us for fun and fellowship at the 9th annual Turkey Bowl here at Grace on Thursday, Nov. 26th (Thanksgiving Day) from 7:30 - 10:00 a.m. You can sign up at Connections.

5th Sunday Benevolence Offering: NEXT SUNDAY, Nov. 29th, you will have an opportunity to give above and beyond your normal tithes toward our Benevolence Fund here at Grace. This fund is used to minister to those in need among us and in our community and is replenished through special giving each 5th Sunday. Please use the blue giving envelopes located next to the offering box.

Stop. Shop. Share.: On Wednesday, Dec. 2nd at 6:15 p.m. (for children 4 years old - 5th grade), kids can buy a gift to give as they celebrate the greatest gift ever given to them - Jesus. Please sign your child(ren) up at Connections.

The Christmas Kids Choir will be Sunday, Dec. 6th for ages 4-13. You may sign your kids up at Connections. Please be sure to pick up a CD with the songs. **There will be a MANDATORY practice on Dec. 2nd from 5:30 - 6:15pm.** Kid's will need to be at church by 8:15 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 6th. Please email Sherrie Hursh (slch1973@gmail.com) or call 251-359-3893 with any questions you may have.

Baptism: We are planning a baptism service for Dec. 6th. If you would like to be baptized, contact the church office at 251-368-4463 by Wednesday, Nov. 25th.

Women's Christmas Craft Night: Come make Christmas ornaments and enjoy a snack with your friends on Wednesday evening, Dec. 9th from 7:00-8:30pm. This event is for ladies age 18 & older and will be held in the Welcome Center. Supplies and snacks will be provided.

Save - the - Date:

Community Christmas Meals - **Dec. 25**

Grace's 20th Birthday Celebration Weekend - **Jan. 16 & 17**



GROUP NOTES

ENTERING THE GROUP ZONE

1. What are you least thankful for this year?

2. What makes you thankful?

- List three items that make you thankful.

- List three people that make you thankful.

3. Glenn talked about making intentional decisions despite our circumstances to be thankful. Give an example of a time you or someone you know made such decision in spite of bad circumstances.

4. Looking back at this week's message, was there anything that particularly challenged you, confused you, or caught your attention?

Take a minute to review the sermon and complete the sermon notes on the previous page for anyone who might have missed it.

DIGGING DEEPER

Gene preached about praying for the president and the rest of the government. Let's look at specific ways we may pray for our government officials. Read each passage and share how this passage helps you pray for our leaders.

1. Read Psalm 100.

- List 4 reasons from Psalm 100 that are foundations for our thanksgiving.

- From Psalm 100, list 4 ways/practices of how we show our thankfulness to God.

- How can you apply some of these reasons and practices from Psalm 100 to help you be thankful in difficult times?

2. Read the following three passages and write down what they say about thanksgiving. What stands out to you?

- Ephesians 5:18-20

- Colossians 3:15-17

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

3. All three passages above encourage us to be always thankful in all circumstances: "always giving thanks to God the Father for everything" (Eph. 5:20); "whatever you do, ...do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God" (Col. 3:17); "give thanks in all circumstances" (1 Thess. 5:18).

- What are some ways/habits/practices that have helped you in the past to develop a thankful heart in spite of your circumstances?

TAKING IT HOME

Read Evans's quotation below and be challenged this Thanksgiving to have an attitude of thankfulness in everything.

"God says to give thanks in everything. That doesn't mean you need to give thanks FOR everything...You are not to give thanks FOR the difficulties, but rather IN the difficulties... Giving thanks IN everything shows a heart of faith that God is bigger than the difficulties and that He can use them...for your good and His glory."

—Tony Evans