



Overwhelmed

An Attitude of Gratitude (Daniel 6)

By Pastor David Hillis, 12 May 2013

BIG IDEA: Gratitude is an attitude you choose regardless of your circumstances. It conditions your heart to find, enlarge, or create a blessing in almost any situation.

Gratitude is more than being happy when life goes your way.

- It doesn't deny the fact that bad stuff is happening; it just chooses not to dwell on them or talk about them.
- It instead chooses to focus on the wisdom and goodness of God, even when neither seem evident in whatever situation you are going through.

King Darius decrees that no one can pray to any God or human except to him for the next thirty days. Daniel is left with a choice.

- He can have an attitude of fear and hide his faith from everyone around him.
- He can have an attitude of bitterness and resent that one more bad thing has happened, and disregard his faith; or
- He can have an attitude of gratitude.

God expects our first response to be to give thanks. "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Has it been a while since you have verbalized your gratitude?

- Why is that? Is that the kind of life that you want to live?
- Is that the attitude you want to carry in life?
- Where will it get you?

Do you have a deep rooted spirit of thankfulness in your life?

- "Let every detail in your lives - words, actions, whatever - be done in the name of the Master, Jesus, thanking God the Father every step of the way." Colossians 3:17 (MSG)
- "The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." Luke 6:45 (ESV)
- An attitude of gratitude shows a deep, abiding sense of trust in God.
- An attitude you choose to have that transcends your circumstances, because it conditions your heart to find, enlarge, or create a blessing in almost any situation.

Imagine what your life might be like if in everything, good and bad, you were grateful.