



SUNDAY AT HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

May 10

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This is set up just like our Sunday Morning Worship Gathering! Read, pray, talk together, and let God use this time to build up his church, even at home. Follow along with the instructions in each section. Whenever you see what looks like a [link](#), go to thefieldschurch.net/sundayathome for a full list of resources linked.

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CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble
Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way
Though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea
Though its waters roar and foam
Though the mountains tremble at its swelling

There is a river whose streams make glad God's city, His holy habitation
God is in her midst, she shall not be moved
God will help her when morning dawns
The nations rage, the kingdoms totter
He utters his voice, the earth melts

**The Lord of hosts is with us
The God of Jacob is our fortress**

Come and behold the works of the Lord
How he's brought desolations on the earth
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear
He burns the chariots with fire

"Be still
Be still
And know that I am God, I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!"

**The Lord of hosts is with us
The God of Jacob is our fortress**

PRAYER FOR THE NATIONS

IRAN

10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD)

CHORUS:

**Bless the Lord oh my soul
Oh my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before
Oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name**

The sun comes up
It's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass
And whatever lies before me
Let me be singing
When the evening comes

CHORUS

You're rich in love
And You're slow to anger

CHRIST THE SURE AND STEADY ANCHOR

Christ the sure and steady anchor,
In the fury of the storm
When the winds of doubt blow through me
And my sails have all been torn
In the suffering, in the sorrow
When my sinking hopes are few
I will hold fast to the anchor
It will never be removed

Christ the sure and steady anchor
While the tempest rages on
When temptation claims the battle
And it seems the night has won
Deeper still then goes the anchor
Though I justly stand accused
I will hold fast to the anchor
It shall never be removed

Your name is great
And Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness
I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons
For my heart to find

CHORUS

And on that day
When my strength is failing
The end draws near
And my time has come
Still my soul will
Sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years
And then forevermore

CHORUS

Christ the sure and steady anchor
Through the floods of unbelief
Hopeless somehow, O my soul, now
Lift your eyes to Calvary
This my ballast of assurance
See his love forever proved
I will hold fast to the anchor
It will never be removed

Christ the sure and steady anchor
As we face the wave of death
When these trials give way to glory
As we draw our final breath
We will cross that great horizon
Clouds behind and life secure
And the calm will be the better
For the storms that we endured

Christ the shore of our salvation
Ever faithful, ever true!
We will hold fast to the anchor
It shall never be removed

JESUS PAID IT ALL

I hear the Savior say
Thy strength indeed is small
Child of weakness watch and pray
Find in me thine all in all

REFRAIN:

**Jesus paid it all
All to him I owe
Sin had left a crimson stain
He washed it white as snow**

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy power and thine alone

Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone
REFRAIN

Oh, praise the one who paid my debt
And raised this life up from the dead

And when before the throne
I stand in him complete
Jesus died my soul to save
My lips shall still repeat
REFRAIN

IS HE WORTHY

Do you feel the world is broken? (We do)
Do you feel the shadows deepen? (We do)
But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? (We do)
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? (We do)

Is all creation groaning? (It is)
Is a new creation coming? (It is)
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? (It is)
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? (It is)

**Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
Is He worthy? Is He worthy
Of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy of this? He is**

Does the Father truly love us? (He does)
Does the Spirit move among us? (He does)
And does Jesus, our Messiah, hold forever those He loves? (He does)
Does our God intend to dwell again with us? (He does)

**Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with the Son**

**Is He worthy? Is He worthy
Of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
Is He worthy of this? He is**

Will you glorify this Savior? (We will)

Will you go to make disciples? (We will)

Will you share the truth of Jesus with the nations of the world? (We will)

Will you join in love to see this all fulfilled? (We will)

SERMON GUIDE

Thankfulness in Prayer | Paul's Letters

During the past 3 weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have focused on the topic of prayer in hopes that we would be a people who are more intentional to pray and more intentional in our prayers. We launched our LAPS initiative to Listen And Pray Scripture, and gave you all *Praying the Bible* by Don Whitney.

We have also been studying prayer together as a church on Zoom. We spent the first week looking at Jesus' teaching on prayer in Luke 11, where he taught the disciples *what to pray, how to pray, and why to pray*. Then we looked at Luke 18, where Jesus gave a parable about how we ought to *always pray and never lose heart*. Last week, we studied Nehemiah and his prayer and learned that we ought to *pray first and act second*, and that our prayers should aim to include *glorifying worship, humble confession, truthful promises, and courageous requests*.

Intro

This morning, we want to consider how thankfulness plays a part in our prayer lives.

Thanksgiving

We Americans often think of giving thanks around Thanksgiving, and rightly so. Here's one recollection of how Thanksgiving came into being...

It is said that in the time of great despondency among the first settlers in New England, it was proposed in one of their public assemblies to proclaim a fast. An old farmer arose; spoke of their provoking heaven with their complaints, reviewed their measures, showed that they had much to be thankful for, and moved that instead of appointing a day of fasting, they should appoint a day of Thanksgiving. This was done; and the custom has been continued ever since.
(DL Moody in *Prevailing Prayer* p57)

We have so much to be thankful for that we could spend all year long giving thanks and never run out of things to say. We ought to be spending our lives giving thanks to God for who he is and all that he has done. It should not surprise us, then, that the Bible is full of prayers of thanksgiving. Just look at these few examples...

The Psalms

"Thanks" is mentioned 46 times in the Psalms alone, not to mention the entire genres of Psalms devoted to thanks:

Individual Thanksgiving Psalms - 30, 32, 34, 40, 66, 92, 116, 138

Corporate Thanksgiving Psalms - 65, 75, 107, 118, 124, 129.

Jesus

Jesus gave thanks for hiding and revealing the truth (Matthew 11:25, Luke 10:21), for the loaves and fish (Matthew 15:36, Mark 8:6, John 16:11), for the bread and wine (Matthew 26:27, Mark 14:23, Luke 22:17, 1 Corinthians 11:24), and that God heard him in prayer (John 11:41).

Paul's Example of Thankfulness

But the clearest and most overwhelming example of thankfulness in prayer in the Bible is the apostle Paul. Almost *every time* he writes, he is thankful for *everything* the Lord has done and *everyone* the Lord has put in his life!

It may seem odd to focus on thanksgiving during this season of sickness, isolation, and many other struggles, but consider this: four of Paul's letters (Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon) are called "Prison Epistles," written by Paul while he was in prison. Paul had faithfully preached the gospel in city after city only to be put in prison in response to his boldness for Christ; and yet, even in the midst of those horrible circumstances, not only did Paul constantly give thanks, but he also commanded others to give thanks. It's one thing for a person who has everything to tell you to give thanks for what you have. It's another thing for a person who has nothing and *still* gives thanks to tell you to do the same!

I believe it will be worth our time this morning to hear what the Holy Spirit says in Paul's letters about what true thanksgiving looks like. Though it is our regular practice to preach through a single passage of Scripture and study its meaning, by looking at these many different examples of Paul's thankfulness from all of his letters, I hope to show you how pervasive and important it was to him. When the guide asks you to read a verse, if you don't immediately understand what Paul is talking about, just use some of the surrounding verses to bring clarity.

My hope and prayer for this Lord's Day is that each of us would spend some time looking up these verses, consider the who, what, where, when, how, and why of Paul's thankfulness, and let God help us grow in thankfulness in prayer to him. Let's take a moment now to pray and ask for God to help speak to us in his word.

The importance of giving thanks – a warning

Thankfulness is unnatural to us. Parents, you know this to be true, as you have to teach your children to be thankful for what they've been given. Though it may seem like a small thing to us, our natural lack of thankfulness is vastly important to God. In fact, in Romans 1, Paul finds it so important that he writes about it in a warning of God's wrath. **Read Romans 1:21.**

- What happened to those who knew God existed but did not give thanks to him?

- What does this tell you about the importance of thankfulness in God's sight?

Our reason for giving thanks

Though we naturally lack thankfulness to God, Paul constantly finds reason to be thankful to him. Why? **Read the following verses and write down Paul's reason for being thankful.**

Romans 6:17 -

1 Corinthians 15:56-57 -

2 Thessalonians 2:13 -

Paul's thankfulness springs from the gospel and from Jesus Christ. As we'll read about when we return to our series in Acts, Paul was like many of us: he was dead in his sins and trespasses against God, not only lacking thankfulness to Christ, but actively persecuting him. But Christ appeared to him on the road to Damascus and showed him the truth, that his sins were forgiven and his life had been ransomed on the cross and that he was called to go preach the gospel, if he would only believe and be baptized.

- What about you? Have you put your faith in Christ? What is your reason and source of thankfulness to God?

Thanks for the church and individuals

Paul's source of thankfulness in Christ grew into thankfulness for many things, perhaps most of all for God's people, those who have also believed in Christ. Paul begins many of his letters to churches and individuals by giving thanks to God for each of them.

Read Romans 1:8, 1 Corinthians 1:4, Ephesians 1:16, Philippians 1:3, Colossians 1:3, 1 Thessalonians 1:2, 2 Thessalonians 1:3, 2 Timothy 1:3, and Philemon 4.

- What do you notice about the frequency of Paul's thankfulness for the churches and individuals? Why is he thankful for them?

- How frequently do you give thanks for the church and individuals in your life?

- Who do you need to thank God for today? Who do you need to call, text, or write to say "thank you"?

Thanks for specific things

Paul not only gave thanks for churches and individuals he was writing to, but also for specific actions that God or his people had taken. **Read through these scriptures and write in your own words what Paul was thankful for.**

Romans 7:25 -

2 Corinthians 2:14 -

2 Corinthians 8:16 -

2 Corinthians 9:15 -

Colossians 1:12 -

1 Thessalonians 2:13 -

2 Thessalonians 1:3 -

1 Timothy 1:12 -

- How would you summarize all of these things that Paul was thankful for?

- Compare what Paul is thankful for in these verses to the things we are often thankful for. How does your view of thankfulness need to change in response to what Paul is thankful for?

- What do you need to give God thanks for today that you haven't in the past?

Commands to give thanks

In addition to giving thanks for churches, individuals, and specific actions of God and his people, Paul also urges and commands his readers to give thanks! **Read through these scriptures and write out exactly how Paul is commanding us to be thankful.**

Ephesians 5:4 -

Ephesians 5:20 -

Philippians 4:6-7 -

Colossians 2:7 -

Colossians 3:15-17 -

Colossians 4:2 -

1 Thessalonians 5:18 -

1 Timothy 2:1 -

What produces thanks

Paul also notes that there are certain actions that bring about thankfulness in the lives of others. **Read these verses and write down what Paul mentions that produces thanksgiving.**

2 Corinthians 4:15 -

2 Corinthians 9:11-12 -

- What words does Paul use to describe the amount of thanksgiving produced from these actions?

- What or who are the actions in these verses focused on? What can we learn from them to grow in thankfulness to God?

Conclusion

Having studied Paul's practice of giving thanks in his letters, I hope God has challenged you to consider your thankfulness toward him. Some of you may be tired of the word "thanks" at this point, having read it so many times aloud! But God never tires of giving us the things we need. He gave us his one and only Son as a ransom for us, even though we had sinned against him, granting us salvation through faith in Christ. And he has given us all the many things that stem from it. If Paul, even in extremely difficult times, was so filled with thankfulness to God, ought not our prayers also be filled with thankfulness, and our lives be marked by the same?

Take some time before moving on to lunch to give thanks to him. Try to give thanks in all the ways that Paul gives thanks. Try to give thanks to God for a certain extended amount of time. Try to continue to give thanks throughout this week for the smallest things that come to mind. Go out of your way to tell others that you are thankful for them and have given thanks to God for them. Let's let every day be a day of Thanksgiving!



10,000 REASONS WORD SEARCH CHALLENGE

Think of all the things that you are thankful for! Then, try to find them in the word search below...okay, so maybe 10,000 is too many to fit on one page, but there are **100!** Can you find them all?

C H I S C S P K S E L B A T E G E V L E C I T S U J
C T W E U A P I Q S P E E L S D M L E G O S L C D D
L O V E Y M G C X E H T L A E H D O O F K B J D T H
T O Y S Z T M O I I S R E D L E C H U R C H U C S W
L D A U C S G E D V S H O W S N O C A E D G F A I K
S Z R S A I R A R O R O O U O B A U S N Q E N N R R
W N D E T R I P D M N O I T C E R R U S E R O D H A
O B I J T H A N K S G I V I N G F U A C D D I Y C P
E R E A Y C Q T Q G L P A X F N U R A Y M E T B Z R
D O P E T V T G I F T S X T R E E R I L S X A F V W
I T O H K N O O M V H O L Y U Q G P S E F N V S A O
V H H N U A U E J T C A M P I N G K F L N K L O E L
C E B A A O C O S I S T E R T L A G F E Z D A T S L
C R E A T I O N M J E I M X B T N A R U A T S E R I
I V U T E P V A C A T I O N E L A R W G L L E J Y P
L L A F U K S T R O P S M B D A D D Y Z R R Y A O P
N O I T C E T O R P J X O D M H N J W V T A D O S Y
H B E A C H S B A Q X A O S E C U R I T Y H N P E H
R E Y A R P T K F O R G I V E N E S S R T O I D B J
E Y M M O M N F B D W C O U N T R Y B R Y R B K P G
T M O N E Y A I H P H L R F Y H E K I B I C I C P A
N S H P N P L G A U N S O O D U W B W T R X B U G S
I M I Q E D P N G C H S P O O G R A N D M A L R B P
W E X T D U I S X T R F C R H M W S E S A F E T Y W
A Q F H R M I I I A R L O T I C O S O M V S H V C A
B N E V A E H A T E R O O Z C N S Y I G S L L O D A
E Z F L G I F S T S L W K E A E G N A T I O N S S M
D N S S N O I S S I M E I C R J D V P E L C N U U L
V H O M E C A E P E S R E T V T R A E H T A E M N D
A L H S U E R W G W P A S T O R S A S E M A G L Q T

