

Prayer Ministry

Expressing Gratitude in Prayer
Lesson 6

- I. Opening
- II. Ministry Prayer
- III. Lesson: Expressing Gratitude in Prayer

As Martin Lloyd Jones says in his book, *Spiritual Depression*, Most Christians know only enough about Christianity to be miserable. The idea of this lesson is to develop a continuous and permanent attitude of gratitude. This is the natural response of a Christian to the goodness of God in His Son Jesus Christ..

The goal is to understand teachings about gratitude to God and begin to practice this attitude of gratitude.

The Attitude of Gratitude

To start your thinking about gratitude, write down one occasion when you recall having a strong feeling of gratitude for something.

At that time, toward which of the following was your feeling if gratitude?
Check one.

- _____ 1. Things and happenings
- _____ 2. People
- _____ 3. God

Check all of the following ways you have expressed gratitude to a person who befriended you?

- _____ 1. said "thank you"
- _____ 2. phoned
- _____ 3. Wrote a note
- _____ 4. sent a gift

Read Psalm 103: 1-5, 19-22. What kind of feelings were in the heart of the writer?

List the benefits: _____

To Him be Glory

Ephesians 3:20-21. What ability of God did Paul mention with adoration and gratitude?

Do these verses thank God for (a) the good He has already done or (b) His capacity to do good?

T F "Unto Him be glory" is an expression of gratitude.

According to 3:21, how often or for how long should believers have an attitude of heart that glorifies God?

A Relationship between Source and Receiver

What does Paul have to say about gratitude in :

Ephesians 5:20 _____

Philippians 4:6 _____

**True gratitude is not a reaction,
it is a response.**

Walking with God today.

Read Psalm 103:1-5. Consider how far reaching the work of God is in your life, especially as Source.

* "Who forgiveth all thing iniquities"

* "who healeth all thy diseases"

* for the joys of His company

verse 5: review the past several years of your life spiritually. Thank Him for

John 4:34 _____

John 6:35 _____

John 4:14 _____

1 Peter 2:2 _____

Permeates Life

Colossians 4:2

What idea is clear in the NASB and not in KJV? _____

What would be the opposite of gratitude? _____

How do we demonstrate a lack of gratitude? _____

Believes God is Good

What do James 1:17 and Matthew 7:9-11 have to say about God's goodness? _____

Romans 8:28 _____

Produces Trust

Ephesians 4:13-15. Write a summary of what God wants to do in your life. _____

Glorifies God

Romans 8:28-30. Read and see how the goal for your life is stated. Summarize this goal from Scripture.

Colossians 2:10 _____

God wants you to attain maturity, reach the measure of the stature of Christ, and become complete in Christ. How do you think your becoming Christ-like glorifies God?

See John 17:20-23
