

The background features a dark green to black gradient on the left, transitioning into a series of overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes in shades of teal and blue on the right. The text is centered in the dark green area.

Giving Thanks to God Always  
in All Things

# Giving Thanks to God Always in All Things

- 1Thes. 5:18 - “in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”
- Eph. 5:20 - “giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”
- Col. 1:12 - “giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.”
- Col. 3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
- Heb. 13:15 - “Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name”

# Are We Clear On What God Means?

- “In” - within, among, with, by means of; seldom translated “for”
- We are immersed in, surrounded by, covered up with the gifts and blessings

# Are We Clear On What God Means?

- “Give thanks” - eucharistéo - a verb; return thanks or be thankful
  - It is an exchange
  - It does not matter that our thanks are a poor trade for the blessing, or that the words are inadequate, it is the necessary and right response to a gift

# Are We Clear On What God Means?

- It is an honorable courtesy
  - “In accepting the gift graciously, you honor the giver.” - Stephen R. Donaldson
- It reveals our character
  - “A man's indebtedness is not virtue; his repayment is. Virtue begins when he dedicates himself actively to the job of gratitude.” - Ruth Benedict
- It is a commandment

# Are We Clear On What God Means?

- “I am very busy and forget to thank God.”
  - “God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say thank you?” - William A. Ward
- “God knows I am thankful.” Or, “I don’t have say thanks for everything.”
  - “Silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone.” - G. Stern
  - “There is no such thing as gratitude unexpressed. If it is unexpressed, it is plain, old-fashioned ingratitude.” - Robert Brault

# Are We Clear On What God Means?

- “I haven’t had much to be thankful for lately.”
  - “The Pilgrims made seven times more graves than huts. No Americans have ever been more impoverished than these who, nevertheless, set aside a day of thanksgiving.” - H. Westermayer

# What Is True Thanksgiving?

- True thanksgiving is not a mere litany of words but is an active response to the goodness or hardship which God permits in your life.
  - “As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.” - John F. Kennedy
  - “Gratitude is an art of painting an adversity into a lovely picture.” - Kak Sri

# True Thankfulness...

- ...Is related to our verbal testimony
  - 1Chron. 16:7-10 - “On that day David first delivered this psalm into the hand of Asaph and his brethren, to thank the LORD: 8 Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples! 9 Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works! 10 Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD!”

# True Thankfulness...

- ...Is related to our verbal testimony
  - 1Tim. 2:1 - “Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men”
  - Heb. 13:15 - “Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.”

# True Thankfulness...

- ...Is related to our worship
  - Neh. 12:27-43
  - Psalm 35:18 - “I will give You thanks in the great assembly; I will praise You among many people.”

# True Thankfulness...

- It is an integral part of New Testament worship
  - 1Cor. 14:16-17 - “Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say? 17 For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified.”

# True Thankfulness...

- ...Is related to evangelism
  - Psalm 18:49 - “Therefore I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the Gentiles, And sing praises to Your name.”
- And opens the door to the Gospel today
  - 2Cor. 9:10-15

# True Thankfulness...

- ...Is a beneficial expression of our adoration of God
  - Psalm 92:1 - “(A Song for the Sabbath day.) It is good to give thanks to the LORD, And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High”
  - Col. 1:12 - “giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.”
  - Col. 2:7 - “rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.”

# True Thankfulness...

- ...Is related to our obedience regardless of circumstances
  - Dan. 6:10 - “Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.”
  - Phil. 4:6-7 - “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.”

# True Thankfulness...

- ...Is related to our mortality
  - Psalm 107
  - 1Cor. 15:57 - “But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

# True Thankfulness...

- ...Is a manifestation of our faith in God
  - Psalm 44:4-8 - “You are my King, O God; Command victories for Jacob. 5 Through You we will push down our enemies; Through Your name we will trample those who rise up against us. 6 For I will not trust in my bow, Nor shall my sword save me. 7 But You have saved us from our enemies, And have put to shame those who hated us. 8 In God we boast all day long, And praise Your name forever”

# True Thankfulness...

- 1Thes. 2:12-13 - “that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory. 13 For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.”

# Giving Thanks to God Always in All Things

- “There is no greater difference between men than the difference between grateful and ungrateful people.”
- “Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.”
- Summary of God’s perspective on giving thanks:
  - Just as faith without works is dead, so gratitude without offering thanksgiving is dead, being alone.