

Thanksgiving: Step 8 For Cultivating Daily Delight in Prayer

“Could you not watch with Me one hour?”
Matthew 26:40 (NKJV)

Step Eight _____

Basic Definition

The Act of Expressed _____

Action Focus: Articulated _____

Key Word: _____

Voices from the Past:

“Thanksgiving is the act of expressing mental or oral gratitude to God for His blessings and mercies. Moreover, the giving of thanks should include heartfelt praise in accepting things we do not like, and thanking God that the apparently evil tidings were not worse ones. Thus it was that John Wesley could thank God that he broke only his arm in an accident and not his head.”

—Dr. Harold Lindsell

THANKSGIVING: A Biblical Basis

Scripture:

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NKJV)

Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NLT)

Pray diligently. Stay alert, with your eyes wide open in gratitude.

Colossians 4:2 (MSG)

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

Psalms 100:4 (NIV)

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Colossians 3:15 (NIV)

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe...

Hebrews 12:28 (NIV)

Summary Definition of THANKSGIVING...

A time to _____

Voices from the Past:

“Among all the apostles none suffered so much as Paul; but none of them do we find so often giving thanks as he. Take his letter to the Philippians. Remember what he suffered at Philippi; how they laid many stripes upon him, and cast him into prison. Yet every chapter in that epistle speaks of rejoicing and giving thanks. There is that well-known passage: ‘Be careful for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God’ (Philippians 4:6).”

—Dwight L. Moody

THANKSGIVING: A Prayer Application

Confess personal _____

Voices from the Past:

“Thanksgiving will draw our hearts out to God and keep us engaged with Him; it will take our attention from ourselves and give the Spirit room to move in our hearts.”

—Andrew Murray

THANKSGIVING: A Life Application

Become a _____ thank you!

Where to Next?

THANKSGIVING...

Four Ways to Get Started and Keep Going!

Following are four suggestions to help you personally apply this aspect of the 12 in daily prayer.

A Practical Prayer Summary
Step 8 in World-Changing Prayer

1. Begin thanksgiving by thinking about all God has given you in recent days.
2. Use these moments of reflection as a basis for offering specific thanksgiving for spiritual, material, physical and external blessings.
3. Frequently thank God “in advance” for blessings you expect Him to bestow on you in the future.
4. Thank God for at least one particular blessing you have not thanked Him for previously.

