

Power of Thanksgiving

Mirabel

14-09

Good evening Ladies!

How was your day?

It's time for Bible study, kindly come and mark attendance † ♀

Father we thank you for today

We receive your word with an open mind

Amen

So, our theme for this week is ***The Power of Thanksgiving***

Please i can see those of us reading and not responding, let's come out, so today's study can be an interactive one please or should i kneel down?

Okay, so, quickly, what is ***thanksgiving?*** What do you understand by ***thanksgiving?*** What's your take personally on ***thanksgiving?***

Answers

1. Giving praise to God

Acknowledging Him as the doer of things in our lives

2. Giving thanks for things received

3. Expressing gratitude.

4. Appreciation

GRATITUDE!!!

All our takes are absolutely correct and it's great that we all know and have ideas already about what thanksgiving really is

Thanksgiving = ***the act of giving thanks; grateful acknowledgment of benefits or favors, especially to God***

It could also be;

an expression of thanks, usually to God

a celebration in acknowledgment of divine favor or kindness of God

Despite that thanksgiving is usually TO God, one fact still remains that as mighty and majestic as our King is, the one thing He looks forward to from us is our thanksgiving...true or true?

The only thing God cannot give to Himself is ***Thanksgiving***

The only thing HE cannot do for Himself is to praise Himself.

That is why God is always around those who praise and give HIM thanks all the time

I mean, even the Bible said if we will not praise Him, He'll raise stones to do it! Which brings me to 1 question,

What's your primary purpose on earth?

That is, the first purpose God gave you that must be fulfilled on earth?

God will not leave you alone o in Jesus name

Well, our first purpose on earth is to PRAISE God!

Give Him thanks, sing His praises, acknowledge Him always

Sometimes, people will say too much of everything is bad, but I found something that doing it in excess is even a plus for self;

THANKSGIVING

Little wonder why King David said;

Psalm 92:1-2 – It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High: To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night

In order words, Sha be doing ***Thanksgiving*** no matter the time of the day!!!

You can't be having a timetable for thanksgiving cos ***Thanksgiving** is not just something that should happen when you feel like it*

Quickly, I'd like us to meditate on Psalms 100. Study it, eat it, drink it, sing it, dance it, throughout this week, just do it with a heart of thanksgiving, not for what God has done or will do but just to worship His majesty, deal?

You know, I used to see the Thanksgiving topic as a basic one cos i always assume everyone already knows they have to give thanks to God.

But truth be told, we forget most times...

Picture this, your dad sends you money and you feel like you are too busy and will rather call to thank him later, but, somehow, you get busy and forget.

Do we know that unconsciously, sometimes, we do this with God too?

The reason that happens is cos of how basic we have come to see thanksgiving. You wake up in the morning and cos you are running late, you forget to pause and thank God for the day, or you asked God to do something for you but when it pulls through, you only remember to call your friends first before doing your thanksgiving

I hope after this week, we will develop a new mindset and understand that:

THANKSGIVING is NOT basic at all, it's as important as if not more important than telling God our needs

It's a Psalms of thanksgiving. Let's endeavour to take up this exercise for this week.

Do it however you want, 1 verse a day, 2 verses a day or everything at once, but just make sure you are doing your ***THANKSGIVING*** while at it

So, how many of us will be partaking in this? We get to share our experience on Friday

Father we thank you for your word

Help us live our lives full of Thanksgiving

Bless our teacher

Amen

Amen! Thanks a lot sis for staying through to the end, you'll marry your husband o, God will stay through on your case to the end in Jesus name, Amen

18-09

Let's start, hopefully, others will meet us half way.

Please pray for us sis

Thank you Jesus for another beautiful time to learn again.

It is my prayer that we learn everything you will have us learn from this session.

Amen.

So, i had asked that we read the whole of Psalms 100, so, we can have a better idea of Thanksgiving while at the same time, we'll be giving thanks. How many of us read it?

And btw, our theme for this week still remains ***THE POWER OF THANKSGIVING***

And we will be continuing with ***Reasons for thanksgiving***

Just in case you are wondering why thanksgiving is so important

Reasons for Thanksgiving:

It's a definite command; Psalms 100:4

*** "enter His gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name."***

Just like how God demands that we praise Him, thanksgiving is a definite command from Him too.

We ought to be thankful, remember, not sometimes, but ***ALWAYS***

Also, we can confirm this in 1 Thessalonians 5:18

" in EVERYTHING give thanks. For this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"

thanksgiving is a solid reminder of all God has done for us and all the blessings we have.

Remember the song

Count your blessings, name them one by one and it will surprise you what God has done

Now, imagine if you don't count your blessings, you are bound to lose track or feel like God hasn't really done enough

Thanksgiving honours God; 2 Corinthians 4:15

"For all these things are for your sake, so that the grace that is including more and more people may cause thanksgiving to increase to the glory of God"

Kindly Note that; ***Thanksgiving is like a barometer to measure our lives as Christians***

You might be wondering how?

Well, a person who doesn't give thanks is bound to be:

#Selfish

#Murmur and be petty

#Proud

Now, to the real power and benefits of thanksgiving

Thanksgiving gives us unlimited access to ***God's constant presence;***

remember I told us on Monday that God is always around those who take thanksgiving seriously?

That is just how it works!

We can find this in Psalm 22;

God inhabits the praises of His people.

When you enter into thanksgiving and praise, you invite God's glory and presence to fill your life and your situation.

Somebody say; Get the spirit of thanksgiving today o cos e get why

At times of high praise, the Shekinah glory of God will fill the whole place with His sweet presence.

Again, I say, having the spirit of thanksgiving is very important cos e get why!!!

Thanksgiving reminds you just how powerful our God is;

Psalm 8:1 "O Lord, our God, your majestic name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens."

He is the creator of all the world and the universe. Nothing is beneath His notice, so, give Him plenty of thanks sisters!

Don't relax, don't stop, sha be giving Him back to back

Thanksgiving helps you minimize focus on your challenges;

When challenges arise, it's easy to allow them to play on a loop inside your head.

But thanksgiving and praise breaks that loop.

It helps you to refocus your attention on the One who is greater than every challenge.

Glory!

Please who has seen a challenge that was ever bigger than God? If you know any, I dare you to tell us!!! † ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀

But I know there is none sha, so, tell me again, why did you sulk instead of thanking God when that challenge arose? † ♀

Just read through King David's psalms. Time and again he wrote of his troubles and of God's glorious power. He was refocusing his attention on the One who had all the answers to his troubles.

Be like King David Fam.

Thanksgiving strengthens your faith

While you give God thanks and speak of His marvelous works, you are reminded of all that God has done, and your faith in God and His plan for you increases.

Please who remembers how Jesus prayed when He wanted to feed the 5,000 cos is like I've forgotten

So, I ask, if we are to use the barometer to measure your life now, what are we going to find? A thanksgiving heart? Or?

Brood over it please

You people know Oyibo people pick a day in November and name it Thanksgiving day? That's about how important it is to be thankful.

Remember, if you are not thankful, if you don't have a heart filled with thanksgiving, then, you are definitely;

Selfish

A person who complains too much and murmurs and you are also petty

Proud ma, I'll tell you for free o

I really hope as basic as this topic is, we will inculcate it into our conscious and subconscious to have a life/heart of thanksgiving

Dear Abba, thank you again for allowing us learn your word more.

We thank you for all the blessings in our lives that we don't see as something to be thankful for.

We ask that you put in us a heart of thanksgiving, that our lives will always be one filled with your thanksgiving in Jesus name, Amen.