

# Be Thankful

- A. "Be thankful," disciples of Jesus are straightforwardly instructed in *Colossians 3:15*.
- B. What does it mean to be thankful? Why does it matter? How can we grow to be truly thankful?

## I. What Does It Mean?

- A. Being thankful is more than mouthing the words "Thank you" without any feeling.
- B. Thankfulness which glorifies God is gratitude truly felt in the \_\_\_\_\_ (*Psa 50:22-23*).
  1. God's \_\_\_\_\_ is experienced as amazing and undeserved.
  2. Heartfelt gratitude rises in the heart.
  3. This true " \_\_\_\_\_ " overflows with thanksgiving.
  4. God is glorified (*2 Cor 4:15*).
- C. For gratitude to be what our Creator desires it to be, we have to learn to \_\_\_\_\_ (*1 Chron 16:34*) his goodness and \_\_\_\_\_ (*1 Thes 5:18*) to express our heartfelt thanks.

## II. Why Does It Matter?

- A. Dig down deep enough and you will find that the root of ungodliness and unrighteousness is a failure to honor God as God or give thanks to him (*Rom 1:18-21*).
- B. Neglect to honor God as God and you won't recognize the need to thank him; neglect to give thanks to him and you will naturally walk in all manner of ungodliness and unrighteousness.

## III. How Can I Grow to Be Truly Thankful?

- A. Be \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ (*Col 3:1a; 2:11-15*)
- B. Set your mind on things that are above (*Col 3:1b-4*)
- C. Put to death what is \_\_\_\_\_ in you (*Col 3:5-11*)
- D. Put on the attributes of godliness (*Col 3:12-14*)
- E. Let the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ rule in your heart (*Col 3:15a*)
- F. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly (*Col 3:16*)
- G. Do \_\_\_\_\_ in the name of the Lord Jesus (*Col 3:17*)

## Conclusion:

- A. "Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving" (*Col 2:6-7*).
- B. Thanksgiving is a feast of joy for the soul, the sort of "food that endures to eternal life" (*John 6:27*).