

## HOW TO BUILD A GODLY LIFE ON THE WORD OF GOD - THE BIBLE

Building a Godly Life involves THANKFULNESS.

Eph. 5:4, “Dirty stories, foul talk, and coarse jokes-these are not for you. Instead, remind each other of God's goodness, and **BE THANKFUL.**” (TLB)

1 Tim. 2:1, “Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and **GIVING OF THANKS BE MADE FOR ALL MEN.**” (NKJV)

1 Cor. 10:30, “But if I partake with **THANKS**, why am I evil spoken of for **THE FOOD OVER WHICH I GIVE THANKS?**” (NKJV)

### I. WHY ARE WE TO BE THANKFUL FOR ALL THINGS?

1 Thes. 5:28, “In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”

#### A. How can we be thankful for all things?

##### 1. By realizing all things come from God.

a. Job had the wisdom to understand that all his sufferings, ultimately, came from God.

Job 1:21, “I came naked from my mother's womb,” he said, “and I shall have nothing when I die. The Lord gave me everything I had, and they were his to take away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.” (TLB)

b. God rewarded Job's THANKFULNESS by giving him back double what he had lost.

##### 2. By realizing all things are for our good.

Rom. 8:28, “All things work together for good to them that love God.”

Rom. 8:18, “For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

##### 3. By realizing all things can produce Godly character.

James 1:2-4, “Dear brothers, is your life full of difficulties and temptations? Then be happy, for when the way is rough, your patience has a chance to grow. So let it grow, and don't try to squirm out of your problems. For when your patience is finally in full bloom, then you will be ready for anything, strong in character, full and complete.” (TLB)

4. By realizing all things, including trials, can bring us closer to God.

## II. HOW DO WE EXPRESS THANKFULNESS?

A. Here are some ways in which true thankfulness can be expressed to God and people.

1. By telling them
2. By writing to them
3. By public recognition
4. By giving gifts to them
5. By spending time with them
6. By informing them of your prayers for them

## III. HOW GRATEFUL ARE YOU?

Do you begin each morning by thanking God for a new day?

Do you look for things you usually take for granted and thank God?

Do you thank God for your health and strength?

Do you quickly express thanks to other people?

Do you rejoice in trials and tribulations?

Do you think of creative ways to express gratefulness to God and others?

Do you look for benefits in things that normally cause murmuring?

Do you give public recognition to individuals who have helped you?

Do you pray for those who have benefited you?

Do you thank God for your human authorities and pray for them?

## WHAT THINGS DO YOU NEED TO START DOING?