

INFUSED WITH *thankfulness*



NOVEMBER 2022



"Count your blessings." How many times did you hear this growing up? This isn't just a trite saying, though; there's actually a biblical basis to it. The more often we have flashbacks and count the times God has delivered and blessed us, the more thankful we'll become.

Being thankful is extremely important to God. We'd never know it just by observing others—in these last days, we see very few people saying "thank you" with a sincere heart. The world is filled with people who are only focused on performing for others and obeying man-made rules. God actually cares more about thankfulness that flows from the inside out than obedient acts intended to maintain external appearances.

God considers the state of our hearts to be of paramount importance. We're told in the Bible to stay grateful, no matter what. *"Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you"* (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). Breaking this down, we see a connection between a thankful heart and effective prayer that God wants us to pick up on. He's not telling us to pray nonstop around the clock, but to get into the habit of offering regular prayers infused with thankfulness for what He's already done in our lives.

If our hearts aren't in it, our outward compliance means nothing to God. He'd rather have a heart capable of expressing His will, and doing so authentically. This is where the church has fallen short; we've gotten caught up in the mechanics of doing things and perfected phoniness. Obedience is good, but God isn't looking for people operating on autopilot; He's looking for sons and daughters who will give genuine, heartfelt thanks to Him.

A grateful, thankful heart is God's will for us; however, we need precision in this area. There are plenty of bad things in the world that happen that aren't His will: these are called circumstances. We don't have to give thanks *for* these things, but in the midst of them. *"Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus"* (1 Thessalonians 5:18, *NLT*). Giving thanks for the deliverance Jesus has already provided puts us in a place of success and victory over the situation.

The devil sends plenty of bad swirling around us. He hopes some of it will get in our hearts and minds and cause us to complain, murmur, and worry about our circumstances. We fight back on the spiritual level by offering up praise and thanksgiving to God. The result is an anointing that shows up to remove burdens and destroy yokes.

A thankful heart is God's will.

We may not feel like giving thanks at first, but fixing our minds on the right things brings us around. It's all about what we choose to think about and allow into our heads. God gives us specific instructions on what thoughts to select and entertain. *"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things"* (Philippians 4:8). This isn't something the world does, but the world operates in the natural; focusing on the things of God raises us to the supernatural.

Making a conscious decision to do this allows us to rule in life. We are in control of our thought processes, not external circumstances. Just because something is bad doesn't mean it has to stay that way. God makes a way when there is no way; agreeing with His Word gives Him an opportunity to change things the way only He can.

We never have to settle for anything substandard; in fact, God doesn't *want* us to. There's no reason to accept lack, insufficiency, sickness, or

depression. Accepting it keeps us stuck in the mess and makes it permanent; embracing thankfulness as a mindset brings us out of the temporary situation and moves us forward.

Thankfulness is a powerful spiritual tool. Using this tool keeps us in the right frame of mind. As believers, having thankful hearts sets us apart from the world.

Taffi and I love you and pray for you every day. May the blessing of God be on you and your family. Remember, Jesus is Lord, and *"...in all of your getting, get understanding."*

In Expectation,



Creflo Dollar

P.S. Don't forget to download this month's free message.

Download *The Thankful Heart* at
creflodollarministries.org/CDMFreeMessage

**"REJOICE EVERMORE. PRAY WITHOUT CEASING. IN EVERY THING GIVE THANKS:
FOR THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS CONCERNING YOU" (1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18).**

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November Confessions



RAISED TO THE *Supernatural*



I am thankful for God's deliverance in every circumstance. (1 Thess. 5:18, NLT)

I fix my mind on the right things so I can give thanks. (Phil. 4:8)



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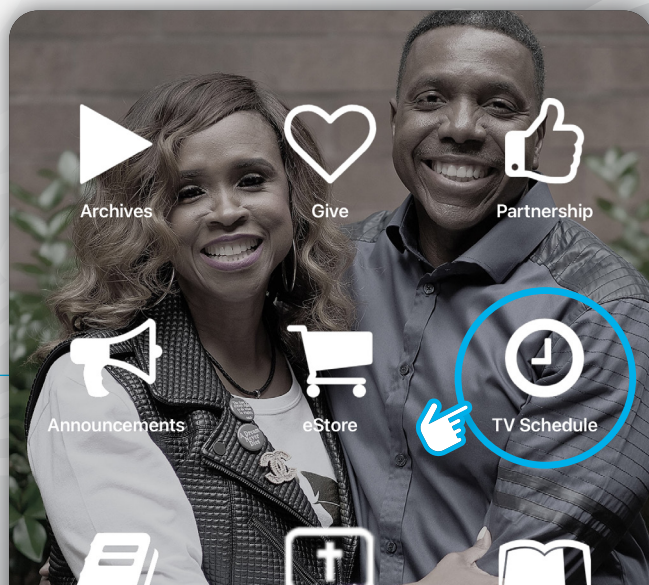
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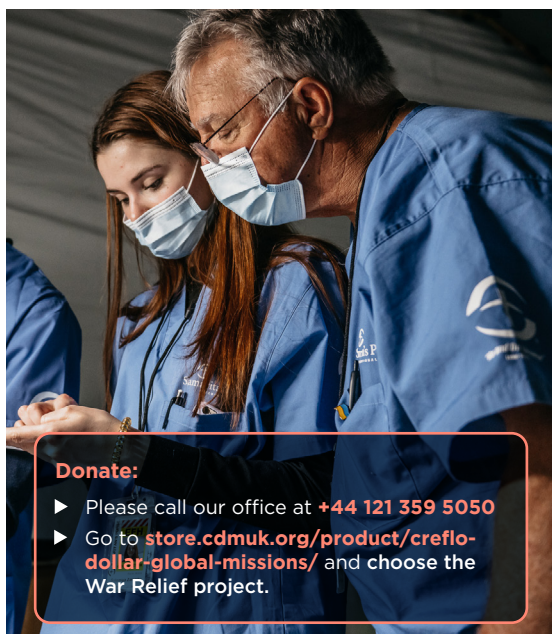
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Join with Partners from all over the World on **Friday, 25 November** and the **last Friday of each month at 4pm BST** as we pray corporately for the body of Christ.

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Samaritan's Purse has deployed our Emergency Field Hospital to a recently liberated area in Ukraine. Our facility opened 3rd October, and we are already treating patients and performing surgeries. Our DC-8 aircraft is scheduled to bring more medical supplies this week.

The Ukrainian Ministry of Health has asked Samaritan's Purse to provide medical support to these areas where the need is great. We continue to work in cooperation with local partners.

Samaritan's Purse also continues to treat patients through an emergency outpatient medical facility in southwestern Ukraine.

In addition to our medical work, we are providing food and non-food items to suffering families in Ukraine. In partnership with local churches, we are transporting these urgently needed relief supplies to families suffering in areas impacted by conflict.

Samaritan's Purse has served more than 6 million people throughout the first seven months of this response. We have distributed over 33,000 metric tons of food within Ukraine in partnership with the local church. Our water systems and newly constructed freshwater wells have provided more than 15 million liters of water to Ukrainians.

Thirty-one airlift missions have brought relief for those struggling inside Ukraine. Twenty-nine of these have been carried out through our DC-8 cargo jet, bringing in hundreds of tons of relief items, including our Emergency Field Hospital, medical supplies, food, and hygiene kits.

We operated an Emergency Outpatient Clinic in central Ukraine and our Emergency Field Hospital in Lviv earlier this year; both closed in mid-June. Through these two facilities, we treated more than 5,000 patients—a large part of the more than 18,000 patients we've cared for thus far in Ukraine.

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OUR VISION

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