
Thanksgiving

- **Main Point:** The primary achievement of thanksgiving is to _____.
- Understanding the Order of ACTS:
 - This paradigm does not serve to _____ you, but to act as a _____ to assist you
 - The necessity of practicality demands we create structure, but we don't sacrifice _____ for structure.

What is Thanksgiving?

- Phil. 4:4-7
 - **Primary Theme:** God is _____.
 - Lev. 7:11-14; Ex. 20:2
 - The primary achievement of thanksgiving is to _____.

Why is Thanksgiving Important?

- μετὰ εὐχαριστίας (Phil. 4:6 NA28)
 - When we pray gratitude, we solemnly commit to recognizing all that God has already _____ for us before we petition that he would do _____.
 - "...all wishes are vicious and perverse which are not accompanied with thanksgiving." – John Calvin
- We tend to be profoundly _____.
- Judges; Romans 1:18-21
 - _____ is the banner of the godless men who seek only to suppress the truth
- Joshua 4:6-7
 - We construct a life of _____.
- The Problem of Worry:
 - Worry is "...a species of unconscious blasphemy against God." – Ralph P. Martin
 - Worry must always prompt us back into _____.

Gratitude and Unanswered Prayer

- Two Observations:
 - **First**, though it may seem God has been absent, God has indeed gifted you in _____.
 - “...so great and widely diffused are the riches of his liberality toward us, so marvelous and wondrous the miracles which we behold on every side, that we never can want a subject and materials for praise and thanksgiving.” – John Calvin
 - **Second**, I also want to affirm that unanswered prayer is both _____ and _____ to accept.
 - “In the end, unanswered prayer brings me face to face with [this] mystery... the profound difference between my perspective and God’s.” – Philip Yancey
 - *Point*: Even amidst our unanswered prayers, God is no less _____ of our gratitude.

Three Steps in Praying Thanksgiving

- **First**, we must _____ all that he has done for us
 - “I remember, Lord”
- **Second**, we must _____ all the wonderful things he has done
 - “Thank you, Lord”
- **Third**, we _____ that the God who was faithful then will be faithful now.
 - “I trust you, Lord”
 - Phil. 4:4-7
 - _____ is the product of anticipating the word of a faithful God.