



SPIRIT BREEZE



WIND OF THE SPIRIT MINISTRIES Newsletter

November 2019

Giving Thanks in All Things

“Don’t act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do....give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”. Ephesians 5:17-20

There are several instructions listed in Ephesians 5:17-20, and the final instruction—**Give thanks for everything**—is one I am trying to intentionally exercise. Since the instruction does not limit the giving of thanks to those things for which I am naturally grateful, I have to work at giving thanks for all the other things; difficult things for which I am not instinctively inclined to give thanks.

This instruction is preceded by, *“Don’t act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.”*

Why is it so important that we give God thanks for the undesirable situations in life? What purpose does it serve?

First, it changes *me*. Giving thanks in difficult situations reminds me that God is Sovereign. He has supreme authority and power. That authority and power certainly extends to my difficulties. *“For nothing is impossible for God”* Luke 1:37.

Second, it changes *me*. When giving thanks for those unpleasant things, I must be intentional rather than “thoughtless”. It is easy to thank God for good gifts, but it requires thought to give thanks for the unpleasant situations.

Third, it *changes* me. It teaches me humility. Everyone has difficulties and I am no exception. It teaches me compassion so that I may judge less harshly and pray more fervently for others. It reminds me that a day is coming when all of the “bad stuff” will be overthrown and eternal joy will take its place.

When I have questions about God’s instructions to me, it is vital for me to get the answers from His Word, because I don’t want to be thoughtless, rather, I desire to understand what the Lord wants. And what He wants from me is found in His Word.

It is God’s will that we give thanks. *“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circum-*

stances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

and,

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” This comes with a promise in the following verse: *“And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”* Phil 4:6

Our heavenly Father will use every circumstance for our good. As we gather during this season of “Thanksgiving”, may we be changed more into the likeness of Jesus through the giving of thanks to the One who is worthy of it...all of it!

“Sovereign and loving Father, I choose to thank you for the circumstances in my life that are difficult and unpleasant. Thank you for the opportunity they present. Use them to change me. Teach me humility and compassion, so that I may be an instrument of your grace to others. Help me to remember that you hold all power and nothing is too difficult for you. Give me the grace I need to be thoughtful of the gift of giving thanks for all things and in all circumstances through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”



Wind of the Spirit Ministries

Robert & Tracy Martello
Phone 360-692-9813 ext 14.....

PO Box 175, Silverdale, WA 98383
email: martello52000@yahoo.com

WALKING HUMBLY WITH OUR GOD

Rev. Larry Eddings

There has been much said for, by and about our Christian brothers and sisters who have chosen to adopt the name “Progressive” as it pertains to their faith journey and their relationship with Jesus, the Christ of God.

The word “progressive” means “moving forward toward a new and better way or understanding,” or “developing greater knowledge concerning current thoughts or practices.” Understood in this way, it is an appropriate word as it relates to our human relationships regarding race, equality in employment, opportunity for education, international or foreign relations, and many other areas where progress is much needed in our treatment of one another as humans here on planet earth. Because we do, in fact, “know in part,” we do not have complete understanding in these areas, and we do need to be progressive in developing improvements therein.

However, to attach the word “Progressive” to a group of people in the Christian Faith Community is somehow different. It sounds more like an oxymoron. An oxymoron is a figure of speech in which “contradictory or incongruous terms are brought together.” “Progressive Christians?” Is that not contradictory? Is that not incongruous?

Does that mean that those who are NOT identified as “Progressive” are “Regressive” - not quite as “in the know” as the more intellectual and informed brothers and sisters in the faith? Also, does it mean that now, after two thousand years, some more fully understand the nature, ways and words of God than Jesus did when He walked on earth and taught his disciples the ways of God – regarding marriage, for example? Are we now more enlightened than He? Are his words now obsolete?

Was the Apostle Paul too narrow minded when he named sin for what it was – and is, with its ultimate consequences? And now we must give a more knowledgeable and enlightened insight to his misconception and misinterpretation of God’s Word? Are we to understand that what God spoke through Jesus and the Apostle Paul, naming the sins that separate us from God and that lead to death, should now be considered as gifts from God that must be celebrated? Has God changed his mind - or have some endeavored to change God’s mind for him, to bring God up to date on how things really are in this new, more enlightened day?

It may be offensive to some to quote Holy Scripture at this point, but, it seems appropriate. “*Where is the wise man [or woman]? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of the age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?....For*

the foolishness of God is wiser than man’s wisdom and the weakness of God is stronger than man’s strength.” [I Corinthians 1:20, 25]

“Progressive Christianity” sounds a lot like spiritual elitism and egocentric arrogance. It’s like saying, “Jesus, your teachings need to be made more relevant for our day and time in history if we’re going to reach the masses for your Kingdom. In this day of modern technology, your “Love Word Program” needs to be updated to a newer and better version.”

All of us, “Progressive,” “Regressive,” and whatever other label we may attach to ourselves, would do well to hear and pay attention to this – and other enlightening words from God’s Ancient Book: Through the Prophet Isaiah, [55:8,9] God said, “*My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*” [ESV]

And, through the prophet Micah [6:8] “*He has showed you, O man [and woman] what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God!*” All three are important. However, it may do us especially well to walk humbly with our God. He is the Alpha and the Omega! The Beginning and the End! God does have the first – and the last Word!

On a personal note, I want to thank you for your expressions of condolence at the passing of my son, Gary Eddings. It is very much appreciated. -Larry

Results of Motivational Gifts Seminar

One of the most powerful things we do during this seminar is to gather in small groups and work through different case studies as if we were the members of the body in a local church. The case studies are real situations that happen within a local church. First we look at these situations from the perspective of each of one of the seven motivational gifts and decide how a person with that specific gift would respond.

After taking a close look through the lens of each gift, we then gather in larger groups that represent each of the seven gifts, to see how the whole body functions together to do the work God has called us to do. It was exciting to see how participants grew in their understanding of their own giftedness, but, maybe more importantly, how each understood the gifts of others more fully and gained an appreciation for the unique part each plays in the Body of Christ!



WIND OF THE SPIRIT MINISTRIES

PO Box 175
Silverdale, WA 98380
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 111
Silverdale, WA

NOVEMBER 2019

MINISTRY CALENDAR

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.



PLEASE POST AND PRAY

OTHER MINISTRY EVENTS ARE IN THE PLANNING STAGES
Martello's email address: martello52000@yahoo.com

Pray for God's favor on the Kenyan pastors as they interview for the visas needed for their visit to the U.S.

Pray that the Sablan's Healing Ministry in the Philippines reaches many for Christ

Pray for the people who will receive physical and spiritual healing through the Philippines Mission

Pray for the India Mission to reach many for Jesus