

## How do I express thanksgiving (gratitude) that is pleasing to God?

### Prayer

*Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. Colossians 4:2 (ESV)*

### Songs

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! Psalm 100:4 (ESV)*

### Speech

*Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. Ephesians 5:4 (ESV)*

**The Antidote to Grumbling is Gratitude.** Martin Rinkart story

Thanksgiving isn't just a holiday, it is the way Christians live every day of the year.

### Applications

1. We don't give thanksgiving *for*, we give thanksgiving *to*.
2. The reflex response to God's grace in our life is always gratitude, which is how we bring glory to God.
3. We give thanks in all things. We thank God in the good times for his kindness. We thank God in the tough time because he promises to use them to conform our character to Christ.
4. We express our gratitude in words of prayer, song, and speech
5. The antidote to grumbling is gratitude.

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# From Thanksgiving to Thanksgiving

# Faith Church - EFCA

December 2, 2012

From Thanksgiving to Thanksliving

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## What is the biblical background of Thanksgiving?

The Feast of Harvest

The Feast of Tabernacles

Psalms of Thanksgiving

Thank Offerings

## What is distinctive about the way Christians give thanks?

**Christian thankfulness is not thankfulness *for* but thankfulness *to*.**

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. James 1:17 (ESV)

**Christian thankfulness is from grace to gratitude to glory.**

*knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. 2 Corinthians 4:14–15 (ESV)*

**Christian thankfulness is not vanquished by circumstances.**

*give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (ESV)*

*giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Ephesians 5:20 (ESV)*

**No matter what assails us, God's purpose for us is not destroyed and his work in us is not ruined.**

*And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:6 (ESV)*

**If God is for us, who can be against us?**

*What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? Romans 8:31 (ESV)*

**God promises to work everything to conform us to Christ.**

*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28 (ESV)*