

**GROWING IN GRATITUDE**  
**#SermonGratitude**  
**Thanksgiving Service**  
**Dr. Mark Jackson - November 19, 2017**

**2 Corinthians 13:5** Test yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. **Don't drift along taking everything for granted.** Give yourselves regular checkups. You need firsthand evidence, not mere hearsay, that Jesus Christ is in you. Test it out. If you fail the test, do something about it. (MSG)

**How to Show and Grow in Appreciation**

**1. BY SINGING**

**Psalms 147:7** **Sing out your thanks** to him; sing praises to our God... (LB)

**Psalms 92:1** **It is good** to **give thanks** to the LORD, to **sing praises** to the Most High. (NLT)

**2. BY PRAYING**

**Psalms 105:1** **Give thanks** to the Lord and **pray** to Him. (NCV)

**Philippians 4:6-7** Don't worry about anything; instead, **pray about everything.** Tell God what you need, and **thank Him for all He has done.** <sup>7</sup> If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. (LB)

**3. BY SERVING**

**2 Timothy 1:9** It is he who **saved us and chose us for his holy work** not because we deserved it but because that was his plan long before the world began... (LB)

**Hebrews 12:28** Since we have a Kingdom nothing can destroy, let us please God by **serving him with thankful hearts...** (LB)

**4. BY GIVING**

**Psalms 50:14** **Give an offering to show thanks** to God. Give God Most High what you have promised. (NCV)

**Deuteronomy 16:10** ...celebrate the Harvest Festival, to honor the Lord your God, by

**bringing him a freewill offering** in proportion to the blessing he has given you. (TEV)

## **5. BY TELLING**

**Isaiah 12:4 ...Thank the Lord!** Praise his name! **Tell the world** about his wondrous love. How mighty he is! (LB)

**Psalms 9:1** I will give **thanks** to the LORD with my whole heart; I will **tell** of all your wonderful deeds. (NRSV)

**Matthew 26:26-28** While they were eating, Jesus took bread, **gave thanks** and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." <sup>27</sup> Then he took the cup, **gave thanks** and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. <sup>28</sup> This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. (NIV)

**Acts 16:25-31** About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing praises to God, while the other prisoners listened. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly a strong earthquake shook the jail to its foundations. The doors opened, and the chains fell from all the prisoners. <sup>27</sup> When the jailer woke up and saw that the doors were open, he thought that the prisoners had escaped. He pulled out his sword and was about to kill himself. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! No one has escaped." <sup>29</sup> The jailer asked for a torch and went into the jail. He was shaking all over as he knelt down in front of Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> After he had led them out of the jail, he asked, "What must I do to be saved?" <sup>31</sup> They replied, "Have faith in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved! This is also true for everyone who lives in your home." (CEV)