

Three Unreasonable Commands This Thanksgiving

November 22, 2020

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

November 21-22, 2020

1 Thessalonians 5:16, *Rejoice always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

1. God Instructs Us To Rejoice Always

1 Thessalonians 5:16, *Rejoice always...*

John 11:35, *Jesus wept.*

Romans 12:15, *Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.*

How Do You Rejoice Always?

Psalm 5:11, *But let all who take refuge in You be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread Your protection over them, that those who love Your name may rejoice in You. 12 Surely, LORD, You bless the righteous; You surround them with Your favor as with a shield.*

- Take Refuge In God Not Your CIRCUMSTANCES
- Trust God More EVERY DAY
- Live Righteously And SING MORE

2. God Instructs Us To Pray Continually

1 Thessalonians 5:17, *pray continually...*

How Do You Pray Continually?

- Admit You Need To Pray MORE

Psalm 55:17, *Evening, morning and noon I cry out in distress, and*

He hears my voice.

- Send Up Short Prayers Whenever YOU CAN

Nehemiah 2:4, *The king said to me, "What is it you want?" Then I prayed to the God of Heaven, and I answered the king, "If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it."*

- Pray Frequently And RELENTLESSLY

Luke 11:9, *"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."*

3. God Instructs Us To Give Thanks In All Circumstances

1 Thessalonians 5:18, *give thanks in all circumstances...*

What This DOES NOT Mean...

- I Am Happy With EVERY SITUATION
- Accept Everything Without Trying To CHANGE IT

Ezra 10:4, *Rise up; this matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it."*

How Do You Give Thanks In All Circumstances?

- Deepen Your Understanding Of God's GOODNESS

Genesis 50:20, *You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.*

- Regain A Long-Term PERSPECTIVE

Exodus 15:22, *Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea and they went into the Desert of Shur. For three days they traveled in the desert without finding water. 23 When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah.) 24 So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What are*

we to drink?"