

Thankful

“Living a Thankful Life”: Luke 17

November 27, 30 & December 1, 2013: Cam Huxford, Senior Pastor

Psalm 30:11-12

Being Thankful Is One of the Most Important Virtues to God for Two Reasons:

1. Being thankful demonstrates personal awareness! *Hebrews 12:28*
2. Gratitude leads to personal happiness.

Happiness is determined much more by your attitude than your environment.

I. Avoid the Wrong Attitude: Reject Entitlement.

Reasons We Struggle with Entitlement:

- Unrealistic expectations.
- Overabundant blessings. *Proverbs 30:8-9*
- Negative associations. *Proverbs 13:20, 1 Corinthians 15:33*
- Unwise comparisons. *2 Corinthians 10:12*

II. Implement the Right Attitude: Develop a Gratitude Strategy.

Spiritual Strategies That Will Help Us Become Thankful:

1. Acknowledge the actual owner: God! *Psalm 24:1, James 1:16-17, 1 Timothy 6:7*
2. Access people who have been blessed...less than you have.
3. Avoid grumbling completely! *1 Corinthians 10:10-11, Philippians 2:14-15*
4. Express thanks habitually. *1 Thessalonians 5:18*
5. Engage in life joyfully. *1 Timothy 6:17*

“Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.” *Melanie Beattie*

“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! His faithful love endures forever.” *1 Chronicles 16:34*

Five for the Drive

A family conversation starter for the ride home

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, how much do you allow circumstances to affect your happiness?
2. Which of the following behaviors make it most challenging for you to be thankful to God: attitude entitlement, unmet expectations, constant pursuit of blessings, being around others who are negative, making comparisons to other's blessings?
3. What can you do to maintain gratitude towards God no matter what your circumstances?
4. Name five blessings in your life for which you are thankful?
5. What will you do this week to express your gratitude for those blessings?

Ministry Opportunities

For more information about these and other events, go to SavannahChristian.com/Events.

Adopt a Family

Choose compassion this Christmas season and adopt a family in need in our community. Our Lighthouse ministry will give you information about your adopted family so you can buy toys or a Christmas gift for the children. Before Christmas, you will have the opportunity to present your gifts to the family and share the love of Christ in a tangible way. If you would like to adopt a family, contact Aida at 912-629-3297 or aperez@savannahchristian.com by Friday, Dec. 6.

The Journey

6 – 8 p.m. Wednesday – Sunday, Dec. 4-8 and 11-15

The Journey, an outdoor production that authentically recreates the night Christmas began, starts this coming Wednesday! Tickets are on sale at SavannahChristian.com and at The Source bookstore. We ask all Savannah Christians to come during the first week as the second week tends to get very crowded. Collect flyers and posters from the Journey lobby display to give to friends, family, neighbors and colleagues.

Worship Services During The Journey

Wednesday, Dec. 4: 6:45 p.m. at The Link across the lake
Saturday, Dec. 7: 4:30 p.m. in the Worship Center
6:15 p.m. at The Link across the lake
Sunday, Dec. 8: 9:15 and 11 a.m. in the Worship Center
Wednesday, Dec. 11: 6:45 p.m. at The Link across the lake
Saturday, Dec. 14: 4:30 p.m. in the Worship Center
6:15 p.m. at The Link across the lake
Sunday, Dec. 15: 9:15 and 11 a.m. in the Worship Center

Nursery and kidstreet (programming for infants to pre-school age children) will be available for all services.

Elevate (programming for elementary students) will be available for all services except on Wednesdays, Dec. 4 and 11.

Blitz and Element (programming for middle and high school students) will not take place on Wednesdays, Dec. 4 or 11. Regular weekend programming will take place in the Adult Ministry Center instead of at The Link.