

Pastor Matthew Swiatek  
Give Thanks  
November 22, 2020

A. Thanksgiving from a secular perspective.

1. Everyone can participate in giving thanks.
2. Thanksgiving helps negative people think about positive things at least for a moment.
3. Thanksgiving will help some, for a moment, realize that things could be worse.
4. It is “normally” built in family time.

Romans 1:20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him...

B. Thanksgiving from a believer’s perspective.

2 Corinthians 9:15 Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

1. It is our joy to worship our God and Savior in Thanksgiving.

Psalms 100:4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Psalms 69:30 I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

2. Giving thanks reminds us of God's goodness and provision.

Acts 17:25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

James 1:17 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.

Matthew 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread,

Hosea 13:6 but when they had grazed, they became full, they were filled, and their heart was lifted up; therefore they forgot me.

Psalms 136:25 He who gives food to all flesh, ...<sup>26</sup> Give thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.

### 3. Giving thanks adjusts our attitude.

Philippians 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 6:6 But godliness with contentment is great gain, <sup>7</sup> for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. <sup>8</sup> But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.

Philippians 1:3 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,

1 Thessalonians 1:2 We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers,

### 4. Giving thanks reminds us of God's promises to us past, present, and future.

- a. Has God been faithful to you in the past?

Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- b. Is God faithful to you right now?

Hebrews 13:5 ... I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Psalms 118:24 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

- c. Does God have your future?

Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.

John 14:1 Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,<sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Romans 8:38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,<sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.