

Gratitude: Living A Life of Thankfulness
“THANKSGIVING in capital letters”

Colossians 2:6-7
Pastor Roy Halberg
November 26, 2023
Hope City Church

→ Do you remember the “magic words” your parents taught you to say when you were little?

The person of faith living for Jesus should live a life overflowing with thanksgiving

1. The **MEANING** of “overflowing” with thanksgiving
WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO OVERFLOW?

- Lk 15:17 But when he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired men have **more than enough** bread, but I am dying here with hunger!
- John 6:13 So they gathered them up, and **filled** twelve baskets with fragments

2. The **MARK** of spiritual maturity is “overflowing with thanksgiving”
WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO OVERFLOW?

→ Note the key words here:

- “I am...rejoicing to see your good discipline and the **STABILITY** of your faith in Christ (v5)
- “having been firmly **ROOTED** and now being **BUILT UP** in Him and **ESTABLISHED** in your faith” (v7)

3. The **MANIFESTATION** of “overflowing” with thanksgiving
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO OVERFLOW?

→ consider these examples:

- Exodus 15:1-2 Moses after crossing the Red Sea
- Luke 17:11-19 the leper after Jesus healed him
- Acts 16:22-25 Paul and Silas in jail

SO WHAT? NOW WHAT? TAKING IT HOME!!

→ WHY should the believer’s life be overflowing with thanksgiving?

1. God C_____ me to be thankful-
1 Thess 5:18 “in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus”
2. It acknowledges the G_____ that someone gave (time, action, service)
3. It strengthens R_____ . . .
it adds V_____,
it creates closeness/intimacy—without it, relationships D_____
4. it’s a gift that keeps on G_____ . . .
a genuine expression of thanksgiving makes a lasting impact
5. It encourages R_____ action

→ WHY DON’T our lives overflow with thanksgiving?

1. Too B_____
2. Take it for G_____
3. We feel thankful, but don’t S_____
4. it’s not M_____

HERE’S THE PLAN:

1. I want to challenge us to become people of **ABOUNDING/OVERFLOWING GRATITUDE**

- A. A_____ thanks from others
- B. E_____ freely to others: Unexpressed thanks is NO thanks
- C. L___ people who have touched/blessed your life ... impacted & made a difference
- D. Fill your prayer-life with thanks... to God and for others

2. Ask yourself every day:

WHO CAN I BLESS TODAY WITH OVERFLOWING GRATITUDE?

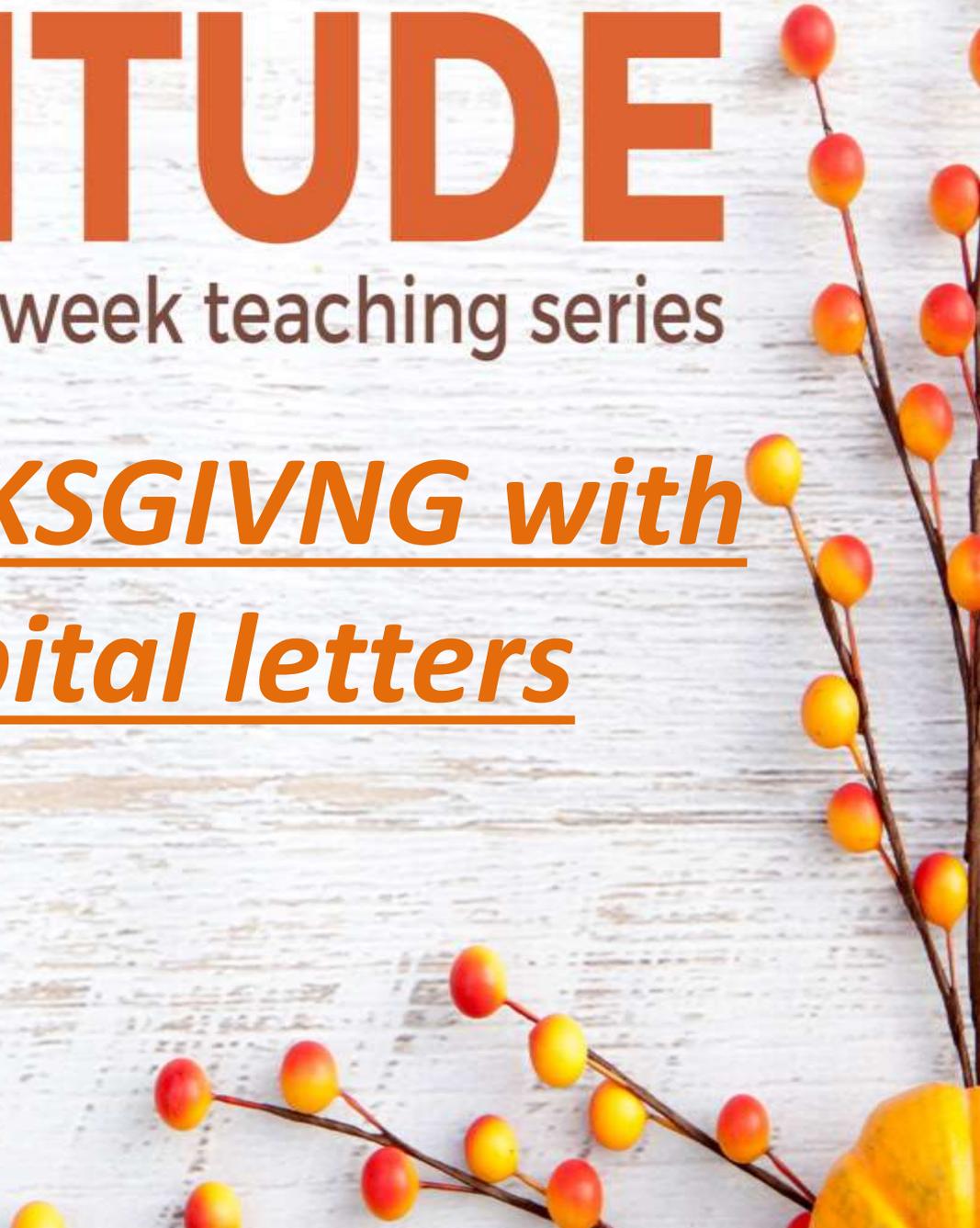
→ PRAYER: Lord help me to _____

GRATITUDE

four week teaching series

living a
life of
thankfulness

*THANKSGIVING with
capital letters*



THANKSGIVING ***with capital letters***

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with capital letters

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2. The **MARK** of spiritual maturity is “overflowing with thanksgiving”
3. The **MANIFESTATION** of “overflowing with thanksgiving”
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TAKING IT HOME!!

→ WHY should the believer's life be overflowing with thanksgiving?

1. God Commands me to be thankful-

1 Thess 5:18 "in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"

2. It acknowledges the Gift that someone gave (time, action, service)

TAKING IT HOME!!

3. It strengthens Relationships. . .
it adds Value, it creates
closeness/intimacy—without it,
relationships Deteriorate
4. It's a gift that keeps on Giving. . .
a genuine expression of
thanksgiving makes a lasting
impact
5. It encourages Repeat action

TAKING IT HOME!!

→ WHY DON'T our lives overflow with thanksgiving?

1. Too busy: note what someone has done but move on . . . not take time to say “thank you”
2. Take it for granted: I deserve it, it's to be expected, it's a normal part of life
3. We feel thankful, but don't say it
4. It's not modeled . . . No examples

TAKING IT HOME!!

→ I want to challenge us to become people of **ABUNDANT THANKSGIVING... OVER THE TOP GRATITUDE!!**

A. Accept thanks from others

B. Express freely to others:

C. List people who have touched/blessed your life ... impacted & made a difference

D. Fill your prayer-life with thanks...
to God and for others



**OH GIVE THANKS
TO THE LORD,
FOR HE IS GOOD;
FOR HIS STEADFAST LOVE
ENDURES FOREVER!**