

THANKFUL HEART AND JOYFUL SONG IN WORSHIP

There are many examples of stillness and silence in God's presence taught and illustrated in Scripture. Both peaceful silence and enthusiastic praise are appropriate expressions of worship before the holy God. The vibrant heart before God is essential in Christian life. It is the result of one's right relationship with God by the marvelous grace manifested on the cross and in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is certainly empowered through the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

- We are to kneel before the Lord our Maker (Ps. 95: 3-7). The depths of the earth, the mountain peaks, the sea and the dry land belong to Him and is preserved by His hand. We need to humble ourselves in God's presence because of the sovereign purpose and power in the creation. Here, we sing with a devotional heart, then sings my soul my Savior God to thee, how great thou art, how great thou art!
- We are the flock under his care. The Lord is our Shepherd. He can lead us to green pastures where we can lie down for rest. We get abundant life from the Word of God and the Spirit to satisfy from our hunger and thirst. The Shepherd will be with us while going through the dark valley of the shadow of death but will never leave us alone. His goodness will keep us following Him and His mercy will forgive any of our future wayward steps.
- We are to make joyful songs with a thankful heart. Let us learn to practice praising God for who God is and what He has done in our life. We are privileged to join our worship team on every Sunday to get inspired for a meaningful praise and worship. Let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise- the fruit of lips that confess His name (Heb. 13:15). Praise God early in the day before the rush, and again in the hurried middle, and at the end as the business winds down. There is a wonderful Puritan prayer, Father you have given us so much. We ask for one thing more- a thankful heart.

Duke of Wellington, a military leader who defeated Napoleon at Waterloo realized an area in life need to be changed when he was getting older. A woman asked him what would you do differently if you get a life to live again? He said, I would give more praise in life.

God bless you.

In His glorious service,

Rev. K. P. Mathew

(Senior Pastor, IPC Hebron, Los Angeles)

Show Your Gratitude

Delna Cherian

Thanksgiving: what is it? Aside from it being Turkey Day, it's a day designated to give thanks to our God for supplying us with everything we ever need. He's given us our families, our friends, our happiness, our safety, our transportation, even just our lives in general.

We often sing songs and read passages that give thanks to God. But do we ever pay attention to what we are singing or reading? All throughout the Bible it tells us to praise God, to come worship Him with joyful spirit, to "extol Him with music and song".

Some people think that the only way to give thanks is to offer a certain amount of money, read the Bible for a certain amount of time, or sing a certain number of songs before our debt is repaid. We can never repay God for the gracious love that He has shown us simply because it is beyond our capability. However, we can easily show appreciation for His loving kindness and faithfulness by showing our gratitude.

Thanksgiving is something between you and God, so however you decide to do it doesn't matter, so long as it is something that God will find pleasing. And let me let you in on a little secret: God's not that picky. You can clap your hands during service, sing loudly, or listen attentively to the speaker, but these are not the only ways to show you're thankful. Express your gratitude in your own unique way if you feel so inclined. But it is important to remember that we must come before Him with thankfulness throughout every step of our lives, because we have too much to be thankful for to refrain from doing so.

GROUP GAME

Thanksgiving Word Search

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

F	J	P	Y	I	G	P	R	A	Y	E	R	S	M	Y	S	R	R	G	E
Y	G	G	N	G	B	R	C	H	U	R	C	H	B	R	G	E	Y	O	K
E	L	B	A	T	O	U	A	A	G	E	R	F	E	G	N	T	L	B	A
T	R	E	S	E	D	U	T	Z	R	E	V	B	N	I	H	I	B	B	
Y	W	N	C	T	N	T	F	Z	I	L	O	G	I	V	S	G	M	L	G
Y	A	D	S	R	U	H	T	C	L	T	R	D	C	V	S	U	A	E	A
P	H	Q	O	M	M	S	W	O	F	A	U	E	X	I	E	A	F	J	P
P	V	C	N	V	E	O	W	E	V	I	P	D	B	G	L	L	X	E	K
R	U	C	G	V	U	S	L	Y	X	E	G	N	E	M	B	M	D	S	V
F	D	M	R	N	H	T	D	G	S	L	V	O	N	F	E	V	P	U	L
X	E	A	P	I	I	Y	T	I	N	U	M	O	C	X	V	I	S	P	
H	H	A	P	K	I	R	A	J	T	I	C	E	R	C	Q	K	O	D	I
K	F	L	S	V	I	R	E	Z	J	F	R	H	Q	H	T	C	R	N	P
R	X	D	D	T	P	N	A	H	R	X	C	A	R	R	U	M	G	O	W
N	K	R	Y	T	R	A	D	I	T	I	O	N	H	I	U	G	O	I	J
T	U	R	K	E	Y	E	E	E	D	A	R	A	P	S	S	O	R	E	I
F	N	I	T	C	N	N	V	O	R	Q	G	C	T	T	F	T	S	L	A
I	T	L	X	G	D	Q	B	O	I	K	B	I	I	E	C	H	T	G	
P	M	U	A	S	B	D	W	T	L	F	C	Y	C	A	K	H	I	W	A
Y	U	M	V	T	L	Q	G	A	E	K	Y	W	Q	N	I	U	P	R	M

Word Bank

AUTUMN	FEAST	GOD	LEFTOVERS	PRAYERS	TRADITION
BAKE	FELLOWSHIP	GRATITUDE	LOVE	PRAYERS	TURKEY
BLESSINGS	FRIENDS	GRAVY	NAP	PUMPKIN	WORSHIP
CHRIST	GATHERING	HARVEST	NOVEMBER	SHARING	YUM
CHRISTIAN	GIVING	JESUS	PARADE	TABLE	
CHURCH	GOBBLE	LAUGHTER	PIE	THURSDAY	