

**Thanks to Pastor Wardlow from Twin Cities Baptist Church in Flint, Michigan for his message on thankfulness.**

**I Thessalonians 5:16-18**

**16 Rejoice evermore. 17 Pray without ceasing. 18 In every thing give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.**

**How can I be thankful in EVERY THING?**

Our degree of thankfulness depends on 4 things:

**1. Our relationship with God**

**Colossians 3:16-17** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

**2. Our knowledge of God**

**Colossians 2:6-7** As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

**3. Our dependence on God**

**Philippians 4:6** Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

**4. Our desire to please God**

**Psalms 69:30-32** I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving. This also shall please the LORD better than an ox or bullock that hath horns and hoofs. The humble shall see this, and be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God.

**ASK YOURSELF:**

- ☛ Do I look at things from my perspective or God's, so that as my relationship with God grows I look at trials as blessings?
- ☛ Do I constantly look for things in the Word of God to learn and apply in my life so that I am not easily led astray?
- ☛ Do I work on building my relationship with God by spending time in His Word and prayer?