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**How To Celebrate Thanksgiving**



(Matthew 15:36 KJV)

*“And he took the seven loaves and the fishes, and gave* ***thanks****, and brake them, and gave to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude.”*

I

want to assure everyone that my purpose is not give out tips for your turkey, cranberry salad recipes, or advice on how to get along with your relatives. But let me hurriedly get this off my chest. Now listen! Not all of us were made to cook but to have conversation with while someone who really knows how to cook get that assignment done. So stay in your lane, know your role and give God the Glory.

As we open the Word of God my goal is to point you to a principle that should be a part of your life everyday; not just on a particular holiday. The word “thanks” in one form or another is found some 140 times throughout the Word of God.

Therefore thankfulness is a theme that permeates the Scriptures. In Ephesians 5:20, the Apostle Paul encouraged us to be, “Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Later, in I Thessalonians 5:18, He added, “In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”

It is the will of God that gratitude be a grace that blooms in our lives more than just once each year because long after the leftovers have been eaten, and the holiday season gives way to a new year, we as God’s people should still be celebrating thanksgiving.

As in all things, our prototype and pattern is the Lord Jesus. In Matthew 15, and verse 36, we find Him pausing to give thanks just before feeding the 4,000. In this one verse, we learn from our Lord three steps to follow in celebrating Thanksgiving.

Notice these steps with me. First of all, in order to celebrate Thanksgiving, you must:

1. **Accept The Scope Of Your Blessings**

(Matthew 15:34 KJV)

*And Jesus saith unto them,* ***How many loaves have ye****? And they said,* ***Seven****, and a few little fishes.*

No doubt, there are many this year who will fail to be grateful for what they have because they are too busy being irritable, angry, upset, complaining and grumbling about what they do not have. In our text, our Lord gives thanks for what He had. Look back in the text, and notice verse 34. It says, “*And Jesus saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? And they said, Seven, and a few little fishes*.” Jesus asks the disciples for an inventory on the food supply, and the disciples informed Him that all they had were seven pieces of bread, and a few sardines. Although seven loaves and a few fish didn’t seem to amount to much, our Lord thanked God for what He had.

essed us all with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus.