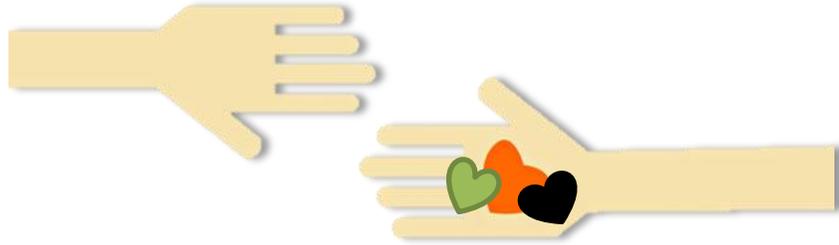


THREE WAYS OF GIVING THANKS



**CHURCH OF CHRIST
GULF SHORES**
AM Lesson by Ray Reynolds
November 15, 2015

Introduction: Next week we will celebrate “Thanksgiving” as a national holiday. This is an opportunity to think about what we have, why we have it, and what we should do about it. Why should we practice (thanks)giving? The Bible says we are God’s offspring, created in His image (**Genesis 1:26-27, Acts 17:28**). God gives—man gives. Let’s read and study **II Corinthians 9** together...

Discussion:

I. Bitter Thanksgiving



- Bitter thanksgiving says, “I hate to say thanks.”
- Bitter thanksgiving comes from a sense of constriction.
- Bitter thanksgiving reveals a heart full of grudges.
- **Proverbs 14:10, Psalm 34:8, Ephesians 4:31, Hebrews 12:15**

II. Duty Thanksgiving



- Duty thanksgiving says, “I ought to say thanks.”
- Duty thanksgiving comes from a sense of obligation.
- Duty thanksgiving reveals a heart full of necessity.
- **Matthew 16:24, Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23, Galatians 5:16-17**

III. Cheerful Thanksgiving



- Cheerful thanksgiving says, “I want to say thanks.”
- Cheerful thanksgiving comes from a sense of appreciation.
- Cheerful thanksgiving reveals a heart full of gratitude.
- **Psalm 103:2, 12, II Samuel 24:24, Psalm 69:30, Psalm 100**

Conclusion: The fourth Thursday in November each year may be a national Thanksgiving Day, but our hearts should be full of gratitude every day for all the rich blessings that we have enjoyed throughout this year. You may have been blessed with a good job, good health, a good spouse, good children, and good financial security but all of that is because God is good! If you are guilty of bitter giving or duty giving you need to change today! If you need to come to Christ and experience the goodness of salvation, please do it today. If you have walked with Him and wandered away, come back to Him now. If you are struggling to find your way in this dark world, come to the Light while it is still day. Seek reconciliation at the cross of Jesus!