

Squaw Creek Baptist Church, Marion, IA.
Pastor Kleeberger

SERMON OUTLINE 11/22/09

BIBLE PASSAGE: [Ephesians 5:8-21](#)

TITLE: “THE EXAMPLE OF A THANKFUL HEART”

INTRO:

1. Are you as _____ for spiritual blessings as you are for material blessings?
2. As a believer, are you a _____ example of thankfulness to others? Do you practice what you preach?
3. The apostle Paul provides a _____ example. He truly gave THANKS for everything and in all circumstances.

PROPOSITION: Thankfulness ought to be a regular part of the believer’s daily life. Let’s focus on the subject of thanksgiving in this passage.

- I. THE FOUNDATION OF THANKSGIVING, [Ephesians 5:15, 20](#).
 - A. Thankfulness Must Be God-Exalting, *verse 20*.
 1. By original _____ we are not thankful people, cf. [Romans 1:18-23](#).
 2. Do you recognize God as the Source of everything?
 3. This _____ principle enthuses and sustains, cf. [Philippians 1:19-21](#), [Philippians 4:11-13, 18, 19](#).
 - B. Thankfulness Must Be Christ-Revealing, *verse 20*.
 1. Thank God in Christ’s name, why?
 - a. Access to God through Christ, cf. [Hebrews 4:14-16](#).
 - b. Christ, the believer’s Mediator. _____ with God through a real person.
 2. True thankfulness will recognize this truth and honor Christ, [John 14:6](#).
 - C. Thankfulness Must Be Time-Investing, *verse 15*.

1. Christian disobedience is really unthankfulness.
 2. Do you ever complain? How much time do you waste grumbling?
 3. _____ your time in thankfulness.
- D. Thankfulness Must Be All-Embracing, cf. [II Corinthians 11:22-12:10](#).

II. THE FORMAT OF THANKSGIVING, *Ephesians 5:14-21*/How to give thanks...

- A. The Format Includes Speaking, cf. [Psalm 103:1-14](#).
- B. The Format Includes Showing, *verse 19*.
 1. How do _____ look?
 2. How does the world look?
 3. A radiant face reveals a peaceful soul.
- C. The Format Includes Sharing, *verses 14-16, 21*.
 1. Service to God, *verses 14-16*.
 2. Serviced to others/_____ for authority, *verse 21*.

III. THE FORMULA OF THANKSGIVING, *Ephesians 5:8-10, 18*.

- A. The Indwelling Of The Holy Spirit, *verses 8-10*.
 1. Presence before fullness.
 2. How do you get Him/when does He come? [Acts 2:38](#).
 3. No capacity for _____ thankfulness apart from salvation, cf. [Colossians 1:9-14](#); [Psalm 40:1-3](#).
- B. The Filling Of The Holy Spirit.
 1. Peace with God/peace of God...
 2. Surrendering _____, cf. [Romans 6:11-14](#).
 3. *Verse 18* is definite and forceful!
- C. The Illumining Of The Holy Spirit.
 1. What is it?
 2. See [John 14 & 16](#).
 3. Others will notice consecration/sanctification!

CONCLUSION:

1. Are you a believer?
2. As a believer are you exercising thankfulness?