

“The God Filled Man”



1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

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Intro: Scripturally, Thanksgiving is not a *one* day event. We should be *continually* offering praise to God, **Heb.13:15.**

These commands as well as others are *impossible* to fully obey in the *flesh*.

While we may make *mental* ascent to obey, we are working within our *spiritual* and physical *limitations*, **Matt. 26:41.**

Even though they seem *Impossible* to fully attain, we must still *strive* to their fulfillment out of *obedience* to the command.

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I. Pray Without Ceasing

Vs. 17

Continuous prayer flows from our *need*.

The *essence* of prayer is a *consciousness* of God's presence.

The Greek for, “without ceasing” is Adialeiptos, and it means, *continually* or, *recurring*.

We need to have a *set* season of *prayer* if we are to attain to a life of prayer without *ceasing*.

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II. Rejoice Always

The literal Greek; “At all times be *rejoicing*. That is, you haven’t *obeyed* until your rejoicing is *always*.”

The world sees a man’s *joy* tied to either his *temperament* or his *circumstances*. For the *Christian* it is tied to his *communion* with God.

Our joy is not *oblivious* to our circumstances, but neither can it be *controlled* by them.

If our perspective is *eternal*, then the *temporal* will not affect our *joy*.

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III. Give Thanks in All Things

Giving thanks in every *situation* doesn't mean we are *happy* with the circumstances. It means we *trust* God to work it for His and *our* good.

Rom. 8:28.

If we're *grumbling* we're not trusting. If we're not *trusting*, we're not *thankful*.

We can be *thankful* in all things if our eyes are on the *future* joy He has promised us.