

Paul the apostle exhorts believers to give thanks for all and in all things (Eph. 5:20; Col. 3:17). Also when we pray we are to bring our requests with thanksgiving to God, with the promise that as we do so, God's peace will rest upon our hearts and minds (Phil. 4:6-7)

Paul, also developed a thankful heart by giving thanks for fellow believers as he daily remembered them (Phil. 1:3; Philemon 1:4)

I believe thanksgiving gives us an appreciation of what God has already given to us, and it also is an acknowledgement of what is to come (faith) before we have actually physically received it. On the occasion when Jesus raised Lazarus from the tomb, Jesus said these words 'Father, I thank You that You have heard Me, and I know that You always hear Me' (John 11:41-42). He then simply speaks the words -'Lazarus come forth' - you know the rest of the story. What is so striking about this account is the total sense of confidence that Jesus had in his Father.

Today and every day, can we purpose to give thanks, that we have a Father who hears us, and will surely answer us. Let us today think of all the blessings God has granted to our nation and give thanks for His goodness, mercy and unfailing love towards us. Please let us continue to give thanks for one another especially as we remember those who are facing challenges of health, finance, relationship break down and loneliness.

All our love and blessing

From Pastors Paul and Janet

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