

I'm Thankful and I Understand – Bible Study Lesson

Proverbs 4:7 (NKJV)

7 Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.

Proverbs 4:7 (AMP)

7 “The beginning of wisdom is: Get [skillful and godly] wisdom [it is preeminent]! And with all your acquiring, get understanding [actively seek spiritual discernment, mature comprehension, and logical interpretation].

All over the United States, the third Thursday of November is the day we set aside to give God thanks for all that He has done. It's amazing that we need to be reminded to be thankful. We all can do things out of tradition or out of instruction. However, when we get an accurate understanding of why we're doing a thing and what we can expect in return, we can do it with purposeful excellence. If we truly get an understanding of how important thanksgiving and praise are to our lives, everything in our lives will go to another level. With this in mind, let's examine: **I'm Thankful and I Understand.**

Romans 13:8 (NLT)

8 Owe nothing to anyone—except for your obligation to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God's law.

Luke 17:17-18 (NLT)

17 Jesus asked, “Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine?”

18 Has no one returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?”

Jesus was puzzled at the fact that only one of the ten men He healed came back to say thank you. Sometimes we must be reminded that God doesn't owe us anything. Unlike the other nine, we realize we owe Him everything. Thus, we always show him grateful we are.

1. Thankfulness proves appreciation for our blessings.

Malachi 2:2 (NLT)

2 Listen to me and make up your minds to honor my name,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, “or I will bring a terrible curse against you. I will curse even the blessings you receive. Indeed, I have already cursed them, because you have not taken my warning to heart.

We receive brand new mercies every day. Everything God gives will be fresh and new. Remember, fresh food spoils. So do fresh blessings. When we give God thanks, we pour preservatives on our blessings. **When we fail to appreciate what God has done, blessings quickly turn into curses.**

2. Thankfulness preserves our blessings.

Acts 2:46-47 (NLT)

46 They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord’s Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity[a]—

47 all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

Jeremiah 30:19 (NIV)

19 From them will come songs of thanksgiving and the sound of rejoicing. I will add to their numbers, and they will not be decreased; I will bring them honor, and they will not be disdained.

Thanksgiving is the seed that produces more. In the scripture passage, the church kept praising and thanking God. And, He kept adding to their blessings. **When we are continually thankful for our current blessings, God continually adds to our lives.**

3. Thankfulness produces perpetual future blessings.

Luke 17:18-19 (NIV)

18 Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?"

19 Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

The 10 lepers came to Jesus and they all got better. **That's good.** One turned back to say thank you. He was made well (whole). **That's perfect.** Many of us fall into the category of better but not well, because we're not thankful for better. **God wants to perfect what concerns us. But we must qualify through thankfulness.**

4. Thankfulness perfects our current blessings.

Psalms 92:1 (NLT)

1 It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to the Most High.

Psalms 92:10 (NASB)

10 But You have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox; I have been anointed with fresh oil.

If we want to see the presence of God in every area of our lives, we must get God involved through thanksgiving. When we begin to pour our praise and thanksgiving on God, like the woman in the scripture with the alabaster box, we create a place for ourselves in the mind of God. **Every area of our lives where God is, we see blessings and multiplication.**

5. Thankfulness pours the anointing on our blessings.

We all can do things out of tradition or out of instruction. However, when we get an accurate understanding of why we're doing a thing and what we can expect in return, we can do it with purposeful excellence. If we truly get an understanding of how important thanksgiving and praise are to our lives, everything will go to another level. **Remember: I'm Thankful and I Understand.**