

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?