

Thanksgiving! What was the first thing that swept passed your mind? To be honest if I had have been asked that question I probably would have said that USA thingy but I got no idea what it means. In a couple of the last newsletters, I have mentioned God working in a particular area of my life, I am amazed noone has asked me what? This is it, it only just became a revelation to me a couple of weeks ago at a business meeting I went to.

I was asked to speak with a man and his Father who is almost a millionaire and has been before a multi millionaire. I was surprised to say the least and wondered what was in store; this mans father has just returned from USA and completing a Multi Million dollar plus project for the USA government. What could he want to talk to me about or want to hear what I have to say?

Well I arrived. The Father arrived and walked straight over to me; shook my hand; sat down; looked me in the eye and said, “*what’s your testimony Roscoe?*” I was not caught off guard, but he could see there was a problem, he asked me what has happened over the past few years, I told him! Well so much for the business meeting! This man ministered to me for the next 2 hours with the greatest sincerity and love of God I have ever encountered, on one subject - Thanks Giving.

**This is a piece of what he said to me.**

*Phi 4:4-7 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with **thanksgiving** let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

*Col 2:6-8 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, **abounding therein with thanksgiving**. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.*

*Mark 3:35 For whosoever shall do the **will of God**, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother. 1Th 5:16-19 Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. **In every thing give thanks**: for this is the **will of God** in Christ Jesus concerning you. **Quench not the Spirit**.*

For me to say the least, in all situations, circumstances, **in** all things - not **for** all things give thanks! If we do not have a thankful attitude, we are **not** in the will of God! If we are worried about things of this world like finances, food, clothing; if we do not have peace or joy in situations or circumstances regardless of what they be, it is because we do not have a thankful attitude. Think about it, I have, and it is true, “in all things **give thanks**”, when we do this, what happens, the cares of the world are not ours, when we wake in the morning have I got a thankful attitude, am I giving thanks to God for a new day, a new opportunity, a new beginning?

Over the past 18 months I have struggled in areas of my Christian walk, I look back now and know why, it was because I did not continue to give thanks to God for my life, for his son dying for me, I questioned God, I was hurt and ripped off by man and his accusations therefore I lost my peace, my joy, and all the fruits of the Spirit because I quenched the Spirit by not doing the perfect will of God **which is giving thanks**. If we lack any of the fruits of the Spirit it is only because we are not living a life of **thanksgiving**.

I used to have charge over a couple of different computer stations in ministry including a TV editing system, it was my responsibility to ensure their running good order and to fix any problems, I was continually asking Jesus to help me and **thanking** him prior and after helping me, when I was truck driving on a new route I was forever getting lost, but I would ask God to show me the way and **thanked** him for it, trusting, relying and depending upon him (having faith in him). I was forever thanking God for my bike, my car, my family, my home - everything. My life was great until an Injury got worse.

I started pondering upon the injury, upon how “I had been ripped off by people”, then I started blaming God, then I started thinking He ripped me off, in due course things got worse, my **thanksgiving** had well and truly stopped and I felt empty right up until this particular meeting. Yes I had been ripped off and hurt I do not deny that, but the problem was **I stopped** giving thanks to God that he would show me another way, he would look after me and take care of me. The Holy Spirit worked with me and made different things right in my life over the past 18 mths, I learned to forgive and try to forget, there has been a major work in my life over the past 18 months. But I lacked one thing; Thanksgiving until now.

Now I have **Gal 5:22-23** the fruit of the Spirit back in my life, “love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law”. I have the peace of God which passes all understanding again in my life. If you lack any of these fruits in your life, it is only because you need to have a **more thankful** attitude in life in general, try it, you will see that what I am saying is true. If the cares of the world are pressing around and hammering you, thank God for his mercy and his grace, be like Peter and Paul, give thanks in all situations (not for them, but in them) and watch the Spirit of God move on your life.

Oh, by the way, the meeting never happened, he got up shook my hand and walked out after ministering to me for 2 hours, a divine appointment of God. Thankyou Jesus! Do it, give thanks to God for what you do have, not whinge and whine about what you don't have, there are worse off people in the world you know. Give thanks for the sacrifice of Jesus, his blood, his death and resurrection, that you are born again, that is a good start, and remember - Jesus loves you and I love you, if we are of God we must Love! **Stay upright - Roscoe.**