Thankfulness: How to end a year & end every day

Luke 17:11-19; 1 Thess 5:12-28

"Forgetfulness of God's benefits is a sort of madness" – *Calvin*

1. *Thankfulness starts with a Right Attitude*

We need a right attitude about ourselves

- We do not deserve anything from God – God owes us nothing
- We need to remind ourselves of this daily
- This right attitude extends to our abilities – we can do nothing without him

We need a right attitude about God

- If we pray only to get things to be thankful for, we abuse God
- A right attitude is love for the giver, not his gifts
- We need to remind ourselves of the difference between what we get and what we deserve

2. *Reasons to be Thankful*

- We are commanded – Ps 103:2; 1 Thess 5:18; Eph 5:4,20; Phil 4:6
- Failure to do so disappoints our Saviour - Luke 17:18. He had freed them from a living death
- Thankfulness delights our Saviour – Ps 92:1
- It is an activity of Heaven - Rev 4:9; 7:9-12; 11:16-17

3. *Thankfulness will have a great impact our lives*

- It will give us a greater awareness of God's goodness
- It will spur us on in our prayer life
- It will keep us from all kinds of sin: Pride & self-reliance, discouragement, greed, envy, bitterness, anger, self-pity
- It will give us peace and contentment – Phil 4:6-7
- It will bring greater blessings – Luke 17:19

4. *How to be thankful*

- Confess the sin of ingratitude and pray for a thankful spirit
- Keep a record of truths to be thankful for, and give thanks daily
- Keep a record of things asked for in prayer, give thanks as they are answered
- Review each day's events, giving thanks
- Give thanks in the following categories: Salvation, Bible, Church, Family & Friends, Daily Life, Other Christians, Work/Study

newlife fellowship

SERVING JESUS CHRIST THE KING

www.newlifefellowship.ie - part of the reformed presbyterian church of ireland

Notices

Sabb 30th	Thanksgiving offering at the morning service Provisionally the offering will be divided among: Training pastors in Nigeria & Release International (Helping the Persecuted Church)	
	Pastor Stuart Olyott will be preaching in Bready RP Church	7pm
Mon 31st	New Year's Eve party for 16+ @ Ballyclabber RP Church hall (Coleraine) Doors open 8.30pm (Admission £3, after 10pm £5)	
Fri 4th Jan	GO rally - Launch of 2008 mission teams - Newry RP Church Billy Hamilton, missionary in Galway, speaking on "Take a Risk"	8pm
11th-26th	Mark will be in Nigeria to teach pastors. Services here will be taken as follows 13th - John Coates 20th - Jonathan McKelvey If you are able to provide lunch these men, please speak to Mark. If you require a minister during the two weeks please contact Rev Stewart McMahon 074 9139468	

Adult Conference 8-10th Feb

Speaker - Rev David Sutherland. Topic - The Way of Holiness.
Forms available. Day Visitors allowed, but must book.

Senior Camp Reunion - 8th-10th Feb

Camp reunion forms are available - please apply soon if you intend going - Remember that the Congreggation pays half the cost.

Bible reading Notes 2008

If you don't get Bible reading notes or wish to try something new, "Let's Worship God" is produced by Airdrie RP Church. It is sent out weekly and costs £13. Please sign the sheet on the table if you wish to receive.

Pastor: Mark Loughridge Tel: 074 9123961 email: mark@newlifefellowship.ie
Oversight elders: Graham Fallows 048 7130 1641 William Lynch 048 7139 8002