A Life of Thanksgiving

Gail Arterburn 2026

Monday, 9:30 – 11:00 am — Thanksgiving – Lesson 1

To be discussed –11/02/26

Note: We are taught from early childhood to say "thank you" as a polite response to what others do for us or give us. All people feel grateful when good things happen to them. In this study, we are looking for a much deeper level of understanding and thanksgiving to God for who He is, what He has done and what He is doing.

1. Read Psalm 136:1-9. Who is God and for what does the psalmist thank Him? What is the constant refrain after every verse that is the foundational truth about God? Why is that truth essential for each of us?

2. Read Colossians 2:6-7, 1 Thess. 5:16-18. The Bible teaches that gratefulness should be a permanent characteristic of the people of God, not a temporary feeling based on our circumstances. Why is God the only real source and object of our thanksgiving in good times and hard times?

3. Read John 3:16-21. Why did God *give his one and only Son*? *For what purpose?* (See also John 1:12-13)

4. Read Ephesians 2:1-10. What was your condition before salvation? Who are you now in Christ? Did you deserve anything from God? How would you define the role of God's mercy and grace and your faith in regard to salvation?

5. Read Luke 17:11-19. What was the plea of the lepers? All of them did what Jesus told them to do and were cleansed. Who was the only one of the 10 to return and praise God? Why? What was the ultimate result of his faith? (v. 10) What lesson should we learn from this account?

6. Romans 12:1. Colossians 1:9-14 What does it mean *to offer your body as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God as a reasonable act of worship*? What would constitute *a life that is holy and pleasing to Him*? How is that possible? Are you willing to place your complete faith in Him and submit to His plans for your life? Why or why not?

7. Read 1 John 5:1-5. What is the result of believing in Jesus and loving God?