

Attitudes of Gratitude!

In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 we find principles of the inner life! We pray prayers, offer words and think thoughts of thanksgiving! We are truly blessed and thankful for this Scripture! Thank God for the “Attitudes of Gratitude!”

Attitude #1

“Rejoice always” (v. 16) means to be glad, joyful or delighted. It is to be continually in a state of happiness and wellbeing (cf., Matthew 5:11; Luke 6:22; Acts 5:41; Philippians 4:4). **The action of rejoicing reveals one’s attitude of submission of his or her mind to Christ** (cf., Philippians 1:21; 2:5; 3:13-14; 4:7).

Attitude #2

“Pray without ceasing” (v. 17). Out of approximately 667 recorded prayers in the Bible, there are about 454 recorded answers. This should encourage and motivate us to pray without ceasing! **The action of prayer reveals one’s attitude of submission of his or her heart to God** (cf., Romans 9:1-3; 10:1; 15:30-32).

Attitude #3

“In everything give thanks” (v. 18). This is a God-aligned attitude of gratitude! The prime Old Testament illustration of this response even in the face of overwhelming troubles is Job who said, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I shall return there. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord” (Job 1:21). (If you think you’re experiencing trials and afflictions read Job 1:13-20.) **The action of thanksgiving reveals one’s attitude of submission of his or her will to God** (cf., Luke 17:6; 2 Corinthians 9:15).

Someone once said, “Attitude is everything!” Regarding one’s inner life, that is very true!

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