



Gratitude

Joshua J. Masters
November 27, 2022

► Outline

... *My cup overflows with blessings.*

Psalm 23:5b (NLT)

Gratitude must be rooted in _____.
(Psalm 22:12-24. C/R: Psalm 105:1; Ezekiel 36:26;
Matthew 6:21; 1 Thessalonians 5:18)

My Gratitude List:

I will be grateful for Christ's...

- _____ and Care.
(Psalm 23:1-3a. C/R: Psalm 28:7 Matthew 11:28; John 10:14-15; Philippians 4:6-7)
- _____ and Guidance.
(Psalm 23:3b. C/R: Psalm 5:8; Proverbs 3:5-6; John 10:27)
- _____ and _____.
(Psalm 23:4; C/R: Deuteronomy 31:6; Psalm 46:1)
- _____, _____ and Favor.
(Psalm 23:5a. C/R: John 14:1-2; Ephesians 1:4; 1 Peter 5:6)
- _____ and _____.
(Psalm 23:5b. C/R: Colossians 3:17; Hebrews 12:28; 1 John 3:1)
- _____ love and _____.
(Psalm 23:6. C/R: Psalm 107:1; Matthew 18:12-13; Philippians 2:6-11)

Please see the prayer based on these verses in this week's Discussion Guide.

Answers: **First Panel:** Praise **Second Panel:** Provision; Path; Presence, Protection; Preparation, Place; Purpose, Privilege; Pursuing, Promises

Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

► Discussion Guide

The Prayer of Gratitude below is drawn from more than 25 passages of Scripture used in today's message. As we develop hearts of thanksgiving, we can declare this prayer and meditate on the passages it reflects, asking God to reveal His hope in a way that draws us to a place of gratitude. Then, share what you sense with a friend, family or Community Group.

A Prayer of Gratitude, Joshua J. Masters

My Lord and Good Shepherd,¹
I will rejoice for the day You have made and give thanks in all things.²
I will be grateful for the work You've given me to do in this day.³
For no matter what happens in these hours, Your kingdom cannot be shaken.⁴

I give thanks because Your love endures forever.⁵
You provide everything I need.
You are my strength when I have none,
And You are my shield when I feel attacked.⁶

Show me how to abandon my anxious thoughts,
For You offer a peace I cannot understand in my darkest days.⁷
Yet, You provide rest when I am burdened by life's suffering.⁸

I will seek a heart of gratitude,
For my cup overflows with blessings,
Teach me to hear Your voice, even when I don't see them.⁹

I will be grateful that I am accepted.¹⁰
I will be grateful You make my path straight.¹¹
I will be grateful for Your protection and presence.¹²
I will be grateful I am being transformed.¹³
I will be grateful that I am loved as Your child,
But teach me to be humble in these things as You lift me up.¹⁴

Above all, I will be thankful for Your grace and promises,
Grateful that the Messiah "gave up His divine privileges;
He took the humble position of a slave and was born a human being,"¹⁵
All to rescue me from my darkness and reveal Your glory.
Your grace and love have pursued me.¹⁶

I give thanks as I call upon Your name,
And share the good things You have done in my life.¹⁷
Transform my stony heart.¹⁸

You are my treasure, and I commit my heart to You.¹⁹
With a grateful heart,
Amen.

Guidance and Group Interaction

Pray the *Prayer of Gratitude*, allowing the words to guide you into a rich time of praise and worship. Use this in your time of prayer, but also consider praying through this with a friend or in your group. Then consider:

1. Which themes in this prayer are most meaningful to you? Why?
2. What stirs in your heart as you pray? Describe the emotions you're feeling. How will this change your outlook today?
3. What's a practical way to build times of praise and thanksgiving into the regular rhythms of your life?

Spiritual Practice

One of the ways we grow spiritually is to spend time with God in the Bible. This week, read and reflect on the referenced passages of Scripture. Open your heart to what God might say to as you meditate on His Word.

Memory Verse

*You prepare a feast for me
in the presence of my enemies.
You honor me by anointing my head with oil.
My cup overflows with blessings.*

Psalm 23:5 (NLT)

Daily Reading

These passages are referenced in *A Prayer of Gratitude*.

Day 1:

¹ Psalm 23:1; John 10:11-15

² Psalm 118:24;

¹ Thessalonians 5:18;

³ Colossians 3:17; ⁴ Hebrews 12:28

Day 2:

⁵ Psalm 23:6; 107:1

⁶ Psalm 23:1-3; 28:7

⁷ Philippians 4:6-7

⁸ Matthew 11:28

Day 3:

⁹ & ¹⁰ Psalm 23:5; John 10:27; Ephesians 1:4

¹¹ Psalm 5:8; 23:3; Proverbs 3:6

¹² Deuteronomy 31:6; Psalm 23:4

¹³ Philippians 1:6; ¹⁴ 1 John 3:1; 1 Peter 5:6

Day 4:

¹⁵ Philippians 2:6-11 (NLT)

¹⁶ Psalm 23:6; Matthew 18:12-13

Day 5:

¹⁷ Psalm 22:22; 105:1; ¹⁸ Ezekiel 36:26

¹⁹ Matthew 6:21

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, December 4, we'll begin a series titled *Christmas Messengers*. To prepare, read Luke 1:5-38; 2:12-14.



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