

DEVELOPING A GRATEFUL HEART

IF WE'RE TO BE THANKFUL WE NEED TO PRAY FOR THREE THINGS.

1. We need to pray that God would move our hearts from Complaining to Praising.

¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.

¹⁶ holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain. Philippians 2:14 - 16

¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. Philippians 2:12 - 13

Gratitude is the attitude, thanksgiving is the expression of that attitude.

- We are to stop complaining for our own sake. Philippians 2:15
- We are to stop complaining for the sake of the unsaved.
- We are to stop complaining for the sake of your pastor.

¹⁶ So that in the day of Christ I may have cause to rejoice because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain. Philippians 2:16

2. We need to pray that God would move our hearts from Criticism to Encouragement.

Ephesians 4:29 – 32; Philippians 4:4 - 5

3. We need to pray that God would move our hearts from Cynicism to Faith.

1 John 5:13; Romans 1:19 - 20

Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior. Habakkuk 3:17-18

Then they despised the pleasant land; they did not believe his promise. They grumbled in their tents and did not obey the Lord. Psalm 106:24 - 25