

Always & In Everything Give Thanks!

I want to disturb you! If your life is hohum...
I want to show you the hidden entrance to Abundant Life.
Miracles are all around you!

I. The Obvious Might Not Be Obvious

Something considered normal might actually be **destroying your potential** and **robbing you of your purpose!**

Do you want to go on being “normal?”

Abundance IS Available!

[John 10.9](#) I am the **door**... [10](#) The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. **I came that they may have life** and have it **abundantly**.

Περισσός — Exceptional, outstanding, remarkable, unusual. Considerably more than what one would expect, causing a distinct advantage.

You Could Walk Right By It!

Have you ever looked for something over and over again and simply not found it?

You've been walking right past the door to all your dreams and just don't recognize it.

Did you see the **“Fellowship of the Rings?”** Frodo and his gang are looking for a secret door. They can't find it until...

Tabernacle in the wilderness. Inside, it was full of wonder. A golden table, lampstand, altar of incense, the Ark, the Mercy Seat

But, someone might not see the wonder, they might see “badger skin” or hides of porpoises that formed the rawhide protection for the great treasure.

Like Jesus,

...who was carried into the temple right under Herod’s nose at least twice, circumcised by a Rabbi, and only Simeon and Anna recognized him?

... Of whom they asked, “Isn’t this the carpenter’s son?”

... blended in so well, that Judas had to betray him with a kiss?

... Whom, at the empty tomb was mistaken by Mary Magdalene as a gardener?

II. The Gates of Heaven are Voice Activated!

Ps 100.4 Enter his **gates with thanksgiving,**
and his courts **with praise!**
Give thanks to him; **bless his name!**

Because of this, you will want to

A. Become a Champion of Thanks... Don't Be Lazy!

Focus on the Kindnesses we receive. TAKE NOTHING FOR GRANTED!!

A SIMPLE NOTEBOOK may be the BEST THING to which you’ve ever applied yourself!

B. Avoid all whining, complaining, needless crying, sadness and despair **as if it were the Bubonic Plague!**

It Questions the Goodness of God (Remember NORMAL isn’t NORMAL)

Accusations against the goodness of God, Spirit of HAMAN

What if most of the frustration and hopelessness you experience has a simple cure?

What if it's so simple that you've never zealously applied yourself to that solution?

Wouldn't you feel cheated if you found out that you could have been a champion, but no one taught you the basics?

Lack of Gratitude DARKENS human hearts!

Rom 1.19 ESV For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. **20** For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. **21** For **although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.** **22** Claiming to be wise, they **became fools,** **23** and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

III. Our Greatest Need is Not Safety but FREEDOM!

EVERYONE WANTS TO BE FREE, to have a **sense of the purpose** and the capacity to move toward that purpose.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray;
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, **my heart was free;**
I **rose, went** forth, and **followed** Thee.
Amazing love! How can it be,
That thou, my God, would die for me?

Psalms 50:1-23
Ps 50 ESV A PSALM OF ASAPH.

- 1 The Mighty One, God the LORD,
speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 7 “**Hear**, O my people, and I will speak;...
10 For every beast of the forest is mine,
the cattle on a thousand hills.
- 12 “If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
for the world and its fullness are mine.
- 13 Do I eat the flesh of bulls
or drink the blood of goats?
- 14 **Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,**
and **perform your vows** to the Most High,
15 and **call upon me** in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”
- 23 The **one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me;**
to one who **orders his way** rightly
I will show the salvation of God!

NIV He who sacrifices **thank offerings** honors me, and he **prepares the way** so **that I may show him** the salvation of God.”

**When we choose to see His miracles, He shows us more!!
Take nothing for granted, don't be lazy and don't miss a thing!**

When you give thanks, it creates a **connection, a **bond**, an **obligation**.**

“Much obliged... Portuguese: **Obrigado**

Our greatest need is to **repent!**

CHANGE THE WAY WE THINK, PROCESS LIFE,
THE LENS THROUGH WHICH WE INTERPRET
WHAT'S GOING ON!!

Repent! The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.

It's drawing near.

IV. Is it too Hard? Does it take Too Much Time?

There is no cost too high!

Stories from Garden of Gratitude.

There is no time to waste!

1 Cor 1.4 I give thanks to my God **always** for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus,

Eph 5.18 And do not get drunk with wine, ..., but be filled with the Spirit, **19** addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, **20** **giving thanks always** and **for everything to God** the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ...

Phil 1.3 I **thank** my God **in all my remembrance** of you,

Col 1.3 We **always thank** God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you,

Col 3.17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks** to God the Father through him.

1 Thess 1.2 We **give thanks to God always for all of you**, constantly mentioning you in our prayers,

1 Thess 2.13 And we also **thank God constantly** for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard

from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

1 Thess 5.18 give **thanks** in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

The more we see, the more we see.

Start your day with seeing the kindness of God that have showered down on you.

End your day with rehearsing the kindnesses of God toward you.

It's the DOOR into FREEDOM & ABUNDANCE

BECOME A CHAMPION OF THANKSGIVING!

A SIMPLE NOTEBOOK of every blessing and kindness that occurs during your day can set you free!

Changes your prayers! **Builds up your Faith**

Transforms your heart from sullen to grateful, from slave to son!

Opens the gates, doors and windows of Heaven

Rom 2.4 NIV Do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that **God's kindness leads you toward repentance?**

This is the BEST THING to which you've ever applied yourself!

Phil 2.14 NIV Do **everything** without complaining or arguing, **15** so **that you may become blameless** and **pure, children of God without fault** in a crooked and depraved generation, **in which you shine like stars in the universe** **16** as

you hold out the word of life — in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing.

1. Keep a gratitude notebook. All the time. It's all around us. Be a fanatic.
2. Start your day, end your day.
3. Give thanks for your family. Your spouse. Your children. Your parents.

The more we give, the more we love.

[Rom 15.13 NIV](#) May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit