

EXPERIENCING the POWER of “ONE ACCORD”

“...they lifted up their voice to God with one accord...And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.” Acts 4:24, 31-33 (KJV)



This Week’s Thought – November 27, 2016

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.” Colossians 3:15-16 (NIV)

In Colossians 3:15, Paul connects thankfulness to peace. Peace is our truce with God. It is total surrender to His terms and conditions. Thankfully, we can wholeheartedly trust His expectations: to love Him, love people and love our enemies. The Lord’s peace in our hearts grows gratitude. We are thankful for a just ruler over our heart and mind. The peace of Christ is a gracious governor; because of our merciful Master Jesus, we are compelled to worship Him with grateful hearts.

“Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Ephesians 5:20)

An attitude of gratitude is especially beneficial for broken believers in Jesus. Those who praise God in their pain are able to persevere. Your hope becomes bigger than life or death, because your help comes from the Lord (Psalm 28:7). Your thankfulness trumps your circumstances, since your joy is based on the loving presence of Jesus. Spiritual and emotional wholeness comes when you focus on praising God for His goodness and glory. Stay thankful in your trials as well as your triumphs. **An attitude of gratitude attacks adversity! It wins and rules!**

Furthermore, gratitude focuses on the Giver, not the gift. We look to God’s heart not His hand. We focus on what we can give Him in adoration, not what we can get from Him in accomplishments. Gratitude elevates our thinking to matters of eternity, freeing our soul—not

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matters of earth that ensnare us. Thus, we find fulfillment when we look for the good in people and situations. We become an answer to prayer, a solution to a problem and support to those who need us. Gratitude brings out the best in us and others. It is a song waiting to be sung!

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” (Colossians 3:17)

Words from the Master during your time of reflection this week: “I, the Creator of the Universe, am with you and for you. What more do you need? When you feel some lack, it is because you are not connecting with Me at a deep level. I offer abundant Life; your part is to trust Me, refusing to worry about anything. It is not so much the adverse events that make you anxious, as it is your thoughts about those events. Your mind engages in efforts to take control of a situation, and your thoughts close in on the problem. You forget that I am in control of your life. The only remedy is to switch your focus from the problem to My Presence.” (Romans 8:31-32; Micah 7:7; 1 Corinthians 12:3)

“And then God answered: “Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time.” Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King