

Getting Thankful For God's Goodness

Nehemiah 12:1-47

We are Thankful to Minister to those who are Afflicted with Illness, Infirmity & the challenges Inherent with Aging.

There should always be a Distinct Connection between What we SAY we're Thankful for & How we EXPRESS our Thanks to God.

Today, we Identify FOUR WAYS God's People Express Their Thankfulness to God.

1. **GOD'S PEOPLE ARE PURIFIED PERSONALLY.** (vv. 27-30)
 - "DEDICATE" here means "to Mark the Beginning of a NEW THING."
 - God Desires EVERYTHING Associated with Him to be PURE...Especially His People.
 - The Holy Spirit of God will Always CONVICT the TRUE Believer of Anything that is Impure or Unrighteous...
2. **GOD'S PEOPLE PRAISE GOD CORPORATELY.** (vv.31-39)
 - Two Thanksgiving Choirs Sang Songs of Praise, Thanking God for ALL HE had done.
 - ALL of God's People were Involved in Thanking God & that's the Way it Should Be.
 - We Celebrate that God's Plans are Moving Forward in this church.
 - LOOK for Reasons to Get Involved...Be Thankful!
3. **GOD'S PEOPLE PROCLAIM JOYFULLY.** (vv. 40-43)
 - The Praise of God's People was Heard in far off villages.
 - What Does JOY Sound Like? If you can't SING, SHOUT!
 - JOY is Jesus & You with ZERO in the Middle.
 - JOY is the NORMAL Condition of someone who is in a Right Relationship to God & Intimate Fellowship with God.
4. **GOD'S PEOPLE PROVIDE WILLINGLY.** (vv. 44-47)
 - True Thanksgiving is always Followed by a Desire to GIVE in Response to what we've BEEN GIVEN by God.
 - Generosity matters to God.
 - Christians TODAY need to Learn what the JEWS in Jerusalem Learned.
 - "We can TRUST GOD with our Material Needs & with Our Giving." (Philippians 4:19)
 - "What Would Jesus Do?"