

Give Thanks in Everything A Conversation for Thanksgiving 2020

**“Give thanks in everything, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”
1 Thessalonians 5:18 CSB**

WORD: God, what are You saying to me through this Scripture?

Thanksgiving 2020 is as complex as this whole year has been. Normally, on this holiday, our hearts and homes are full with our special people and blessings. However, 2020 has been hard, and, for many of us, this Thanksgiving is very different from what we would like. Still, God’s Word tells us to **“give thanks in everything,”** and we want to honor God in this. ~ *How is this holiday season different? What are some things that “everything” includes in our lives this year? What is one thing we can be thankful for right now?*

WHY: God, why does this Scripture matter?

The phrase **“give thanks”** in our verse literally means “good grace.” God’s good grace has carried us through every circumstance of this year, and in this we can be thankful. Giving thanks **“in everything”** doesn’t mean that we have to be grateful for everything. Giving thanks means acknowledging and appreciating how God has helped us through it all. As we do, we live according to His perfect will for our lives! ~ *How has God’s grace carried us this year? How has He been with us? How has He helped us?*

WHAT: God, what else does Your Word say to me about this?

The Thessalonians (to whom the Apostle Paul wrote our key verse) were grieving loved ones, facing severe persecution and wondering if it was the end of the world. Their times were different than ours, but their questions were much like our own. In the midst of this, Paul encouraged them, **“Be at peace...comfort the discouraged, help the weak, be patient with everyone...Always pursue what is good for one another and for all. Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in everything...”** (1 Thessalonians 5:13-18). ~ *If these words inspired the Thessalonians as they faced hardship, how might these words inspire us now? As you give thanks, what else would God have you do today?*

WORSHIP: God, how do You want me to respond to this truth?

This Thanksgiving, let’s worship God by intentionally taking moments to **“give thanks in everything.”** God’s grace has carried our family this year. He has provided for us and taken care of us. Let’s think about specific prayers He has answered and ways He has sustained us this year. Let’s count His blessings and goodness to us. This in mind, let’s each create gratitude letters for our own family Thanksgiving 2020 time capsule.

Family Disciple Me Blessing

Lord, we acknowledge Your goodness to us this year. You are our hope and our redeemer, our Savior and our joy. Thank You for never leaving us or forsaking us. We love You and are so thankful for You! Amen!