

Attitude of Gratitude!

to have deep gratitude for everything He does!

Yet having a gratitude for some is easy. For others it is hard !

Gratitude as a habit is a powerful one to have!

For many, it takes time and discipline to get accustomed to having a mindset of gratitude

- And much like the things we take for granted, i
 - There can be an impact in somebody else's life through ways that are easily overlooked—

From really taking the time to savor each fleeting moment with a loved one to

being more appreciative of the simplest joys we can have **an attitude of gratitude!**

When you are grateful,

- your focus narrows down to what is
 - and not on what isn't or what should have or could have been.
 - NO MORE SHOULD'VE COULD'VE'S

This is very powerful and valuable because you are brought back to the present moment—

- the only point in time that is within our full control.
 - From taking a breath...
 - to appreciating family and the friendships to love,

We should be grateful.

But what direction do you send that gratitude?

If you're looking to develop a deeper sense of gratitude we are looking to transition spiritually to having an Attitude of Gratitude!

How do you imagine God?

How do you conceive the Creator of galaxies and star clusters?

How do you picture Him?

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Some theologians said that any concept we have of God cannot be God, because God will always be greater, more wondrous than our concepts.

Stating that finite minds cannot fathom the infinite God!

- Yet is that really true for you and for me? I do not endorse that as the Word God has so much encouragement to communicate who God truly is and how we can trust in Him!

I was recently startled by God's unimaginable greatness as I tripped over this text from the book of Job

As long as my breath is in me and the spirit of God is in my nostrils, my lips will not speak falsehood, and my tongue will not utter deceit. Job 27:3-4

“As long as my breath is in me and the spirit of God is in my nostrils...”

Even now... draw in a deep breath and think of that phrase

- the “spirit of God in my nostrils”!

I had never thought of the God of the cosmos as close to me as that!

So if the you can imagine the Spirit of God in each breath,

- could you perceive that not only can you fathom Him
 - but you can experience that God is near!?

The breath you are taking in is more than just air; it is God breathing His life into you.

- It is the same Spirit-breath of life that blew upon the primeval chaos (Genesis 1:2),
- that blew upon ancient prophets (2 Peter 1:20-21),
- upon the Valley of Dry Bones (Ezekiel 37:1-14),
- upon the Church at Pentecost. (Acts 2)
- the Spirit that raised Jesus from death (Romans 8:11),
- the Spirit raising us to Christ's new, supernatural dimension of living (Romans 8:11).

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David grasped this with his celebration of God being near in Psalm 75

1 We praise you, God,
we praise you, for your Name is near;
people tell of your wonderful deeds.

6 No one from the east or the west
or from the desert can exalt themselves.

7 It is God who judges:
He brings one down, he exalts another.

8 In the hand of the Lord is a cup
full of foaming wine mixed with spices;
he pours it out, and all the wicked of the earth
drink it down to its very dregs.

9 As for me, I will declare this forever;
I will sing praise to the God of Jacob,
10 who says, "I will cut off the horns of all the wicked,
but the horns of the righteous will be lifted up." Psalm 75:1, 6-10

We praise you, God, we praise you, for your Name is near; people tell of your wonderful deeds.

How do you imagine God? How do you perceive Him?

He is not the God "up there"!

He is the God that is close to you,

as near to you as your own breath!

And Luke does a great job capture Paul speaking here with such lyrical wording...

for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.' Acts 17:28

He is the God in whom "we live and move and have our being".

Paul wants you to recall that although Sin separates us from God, "yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for 'In him we live and move and have our being!

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In context Paul wanted the Athenians to know... for you today to know that God is not some lifeless idol fashioned by human hands , but is the living God!

And in Him we live!

Could we then truly offer up gratitude to the Father-God who is right there within you!

Psalm 145:18, ESV The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Simply use that breath and call out to him! And have a attitude of gratitude that he is near to all who simply Call on him!

Lastly when we are hurting and even feeling crushed God is near to us...

Psalm 34:18, ESV The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit

How better can we be offering up gratitude to show God than we are so very thankful for his nearness to us!?

God wants to teach us that He is Good and what He does is good!

Understand to truly have a perspective that is real – it is spiritual!

A Holy Spirit leap to have the right attitude to what to choose to be grateful!

I We thank you, O God!
We give thanks because you are near.
People everywhere tell of your wonderful deeds. Psalm 75:1

Maybe we could sing this one!?

We thank you go GOD!!!! And for what = for His wonderful deeds!

Are you willing to recognize that God is good to you in a way that is different than how He is good to others?

Quickly here are list of benefits you should be grateful for and exercise an attitude of gratitude each and every day!:

- He forgives our sins. (Matthew 6:12)
- He heals our diseases (Exodus 15:26).
- He redeems our life from destruction (hell) Psalm 34:22

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- He crowns us with loving kindness and tender mercies (compassion) Luke 15:11-24.
- He satisfies us with good things James 1:17
- He renews our youth like the eagle)s Isaiah 40:31
- He executes righteousness and judgment for all the oppressed (Matthew 11:38-30).
- He makes His ways and His acts known to us (Genesis 15:12-14)

An attitude of Gratitude is warranted for the many many benefits that we redeem just by being a child of God!