Gospel Fueled Thankfulness

What Is The Gospel?

The *good news* of what God has done for humanity through His son Jesus Christ

1 Corinthians 15:1-4 (NIV)

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Colossians 1:21-22 (NIV)

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.

"The gospel is this: We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope." – Tim Keller

Gospel fueled thankfulness produces...

Peaceful People

Colossians 3:15 (ESV)

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

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Matthew 5:9 (NIV)
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Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Romans 12:18 (NIV) If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

2 Timothy 2:23 (NIV) Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels.

Praying People

Colossians 4:2 (ESV) Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

Philippians 4:6 (ESV) Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

"Prayer should not be regarded as a duty which must be performed, but rather as a privilege to be enjoyed, a rare delight that is always revealing some new beauty." – E.M. Bounds

Praising People

Colossians 3:16 (ESV) Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Psalm 7:17 (ESV) I will give to the LORD the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High.

Psalm 100:4 (ESV) Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Psalm 95:2-3 (ESV)

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. "His supreme purpose in making man was to have somebody capable to properly and sufficiently worship Him and satisfy His own heart." – A.W. Tozer

Proclaiming People

2 Corinthians 4:5-6, 15 (ESV)

For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

Isaiah 12:4 (ESV)

And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.

"We are not called to proclaim philosophy and metaphysics, but the simple gospel. Man's fall, his need of a new birth, forgiveness through atonement, and salvation as the result of faith, these are our battle-ax and weapons of war." – Charles Spurgeon