

## Elder Ronnie Loudermilk



### O Give Thanks Unto The Lord (part 1)

Psalms 105:1, "O GIVE thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people."

A thankful perspective and disposition is something that everyone should display in all facets of life. When we look back and examine the days passed, I believe we are able to see the rich blessings that our Father in Heaven has bestowed upon us all. The Holy Word of God helps us by reminding us of those who gave thanks for the blessings of the Lord. In John 6:11, we read about our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave us a perfect example, giving thanks unto the Father for the meal about to be received. In 1 Thessalonians 5:18, it is the Apostle Paul who teaches us that being thankful is "the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." One of the continual efforts of Paul in his letter to the Colossians was to remind them to be thankful:

- Colossians 1:12, he reminds them to be thankful for the grace of God that "hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:...";
- Colossians 2:7, he reminds them that being thankful is a needful piece in being "stablished in the faith,...";
- Colossians 3:17, he exhorts them to be thankful in "whatsoever ye do in word or deed,..."; and

- Colossians 4:2, he labors to motivate them to always "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;..."

My wife, Jennifer, is always coming up with ideas to help us, as a family, to be closer. Recently, with the day of Thanksgiving drawing near, she put together a "thankful jar" for our family. The purpose of the "thankful jar" is that every day we (Jennifer, Joshua, Sarah Beth and I) will write a note about something for which we are thankful, fold it up and put it into the jar. After Thanksgiving day, we are going to pour out the jar and read our notes in them to each other. I'm excited to hear the kids and Jennifer read their notes, but most of all, I'm thankful to the Lord for His rich blessings, that we are able to understand that all blessings come from Him, and that we all owe Him an abundance of thanksgiving for all that He has done, is doing and will yet do for us. Amen!