

November 25, 2021

1 Chron. 16:34 *Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His love endures forever.* (NIV)

During this season of Thanksgiving, I think it is important to look at who we are to be thankful to and for what He has done for us. We can, and should, thank those in our lives that have been there for us and helped us in various different situations. But, when we look at the big picture of our lives, there is no doubt that the One Who deserves our thanks is none other than the LORD Himself.

The Hebrew word for *thank* is **hovdu** which means *to give praise, confess our gratitude and bow in appreciation*. When you think about it, there is no one else worthy of our praise and gratitude. He has done the very most important thing for everyone through the salvation of the cross. Now, we give thanks before we eat, maybe before we travel or depart on some mission, but I wonder if we give thanks for the things we typically take for granted. Have you thanked God for the heart that is moving your blood throughout your body? Have you thanked Him lately for putting you into certain situations? For example, I thank Him today for taking me out of this country on a mission trip and putting my future wife right in my way. I thank Him for the forty-seven years that He has allowed me to be in the ministry. I thank Him for the countless letters, texts and phone calls of people that have been a part of my journey here on this planet. I thank Him for those that have pastored me along the way and for Dr. Rick Scarborough, who has mentored, prayed for, and guided me in so many ways. I thank Him for my second grade Sunday School teacher who helped me understand the importance of salvation and loving the LORD. I thank Him for my grandfather who loved me and took me in when I needed it most. I thank Him for my two sisters, and their families, whom I love with all my heart. I thank him for the most wonderful wife and friend I could ever have and the most beautiful children and now four grandchildren. I am blessed beyond measure.

And, most importantly, I thank Him for loving me so much that He paid the ultimate sacrifice for me upon the cross. He took my sins and paid for every one of them. I thank Him for continuing to speak through His word. **Rom. 8:28** *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.* (NIV)

Let today be a day thankfulness. Sit down and make a list of people you should thank and then text them, call them, write them, email them; just let them know how much they mean to you. And then after you do, spend some time thanking the One Who put them in your life and gave up His own for you.

Dear LORD, thank You; thank You; thank You. You are good. Your mercy endures forever. In Jesus Name, Amen