

Stay Rad!

“Radical Gratitude”

What Are Basic Characteristics of Thankfulness?

1. Gratitude is evidence in my life of the *Holy Spirit's control*.

- Eph. 5:18b-20: “. . . be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ *always giving thanks* to God the Father *for everything*, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

2. Gratitude is the *proper response* to all of my life's circumstances.

- 1 Thess. 5:18: “*Give thanks in all circumstances*; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”

Why Should I Demonstrate an Attitude of Gratitude?

1. Because gratitude *builds relationships*.

- Col. 3:15: “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.”

2. Because gratitude *honors God*.

- Col. 3:16: “Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.”

3. Because gratitude *develops my faith*.

- Col. 2:6-7: “So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.”

4. Because gratitude *serves others*.

- Eph. 4:29: “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”

5. Because gratitude *speaks to unbelievers*.

- Col. 4:5-6: “Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. ⁶ Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”

