

Introduction

How many of you have ever felt dishonored? I have. A few years ago Karen and I flew to Houston to attend our company Christmas dinner with our Houston staff. I gave out nice employee bonuses to all of our staff, and thanked everyone for their work. It should have been a wonderful evening, but one of them put a Santa hat on me made me the joke of the evening. They all laughed, but I was not laughing; I felt terribly dishonored. I was a good sport and did not say a word to any of them, but I felt terribly dishonored. The proper thing for them to have done would be to say thanks to me and to our company. We treat our employees extremely well, and a word of thanks from them would have been the appropriate thing to do.

There are two books in the Bible that concentrate on honor. One of them is the book of Malachi and the other is Timothy. In Malachi, God said, “a son honors his father, and a servant his master. Then if I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My respect? O priests who despise My name.” Many people think of Malachi and tithing. He does address tithing, but the main theme of the book is about honoring God. God felt dishonored by His people. Tithing was just one of the ways that God’s people were dishonoring Him.

(Mal 1:6) “‘A son honors his father, and a servant his master. Then if I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My respect?’ says the LORD of hosts to you, O priests who despise My name. But you say, 'How have we despised Your name?’”

In Malachi, God shared a variety of ways that they were dishonoring him. They were bringing in lame sacrifices. This speaks of the quality of our offerings. We are to bring our very best. When Cain and Abel brought their offerings, Abel brought the fat portion; it was the very best, and God was honored. When we serve the Lord, it needs to be the best offering we can give. If we serve on the media team, it needs to be done with a spirit of excellence. If we greet, we should come prepared to bless and greet people to the best of our ability. The fellowship luncheon that we had last week was done with a spirit of excellence. Cindy Van Hart and all of you worked hard, and your contributions were of the highest quality. God was honored, and all of us enjoyed the luncheon.

In chapter two, God said that the priests were not honoring God’s name because they had corrupted God’s commandments and were not teaching the Word accurately. Pastors must work hard to teach the word of God accurately. We have had a couple of ministers at our church that I have not invited back. One of them showed up without any preparation. He even borrowed my Bible to preach from. It was a message he had done in the past, and he just winged it. He did not give His best offering. He brought a lame sheep to the altar and it dishonored God. I also felt he dishonored me and our body. Pastors need to bring the best lambs of the flock. They need to give their best. In chapter two, God also said they were dishonoring Him by treating their wives with treachery. The way we treat one another can either honor or dishonor God.

In chapter three, God rebukes them for not bringing in their whole tithes. He said, “bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there will be food in My house.” This speaks of the quantity of our giving. Chapter one was about the quality of our offerings. The priests and Levites lived off of the tithes and offerings. Your tithes and offerings help support those who make their living from the gospel. Our church is not large, but if everyone at EMVC was tithing, our Pastor Bill Bice could be full time and not have to work a second job. There would be food in our house if we tithed.

(Mal 3:10) “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house...”

I understand how God felt. It feels horrible to be dishonored. God shared these things with them, and with us so that we will learn to honor Him. We have been called to honor God with our giving, our words, our actions, our relationships, our praise, our thanksgiving, and with our whole lives. And, we have also been called to honor one another.

A second book that speaks about honor is Paul’s letter to Timothy. Timothy’s name means one who honors God. In chapter three Paul states his purpose for writing the letter. He said, “I write so that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God.” Throughout the book of Timothy, he writes about honor. In God’s house, we are to conduct ourselves with honor. God wants us to learn how to honor Him and others. That is the overall theme of the book of Timothy.

(1 Tim 3:15) “but in case I am delayed, I write so that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.”

In chapter one, Paul wrote, “now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.” Paul starts the letter out by honoring God.

(1 Tim 1:17) “Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.”

In 1 Timothy 5, Paul speaks of honoring older men, younger men, older women, and younger women. Then, he addresses how we are to honor widows in the church. Next, Paul speaks of honoring leaders in the church. Paul goes on to address how slaves are to honor their masters. The way we conduct ourselves in the church is by honoring one another.

Paul ends his letter to Timothy in the same way he began, by honoring God. He says, “He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light; whom no man has seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen.” Paul begins the letter honoring God and he ends the letter by honoring God.

(1 Tim 6:15b-16) “He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords; who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light; whom no man has seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen.”

We are called to honor God and others, and in that order. We must learn to honor God first, and then honor others later. In the book of 1 Samuel, the Lord sent a prophet to Eli to confront him about how he had honored his sons above God. Eli’s sons were not walking uprightly, and Eli did not rebuke his sons. Therefore, God told Eli that he honored his sons above God. There is a priority in our lives. We must honor God first. He is preeminent. Then, we should give honor to others. We are called to honor kings and those in authority, but we must honor God above the king or any other authority. The final thing that God said to Eli through the prophet is that those who honor Him, He will honor. I love that. I want us to be a church that honors God. He will honor our church if we learn to honor Him. We are starting a series today that will hopefully help us grow in this area of our lives. This is one of the most important series that we have done in this church.

(1 Sam 2:29-30) “Why do you kick at My sacrifice and at My offering which I have commanded in My dwelling, and honor your sons above Me, by making yourselves fat with the choicest of every offering of My people Israel?” {30} Therefore the LORD God of Israel declares, 'I did indeed say that your house and the house of your father should walk before Me forever'; but now the LORD declares, 'Far be it from Me—for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me will be lightly esteemed.’”

In James 2, he says that when we give preferential treatment to the rich and treat the poor less favorably, we dishonor them. Then, he says that if we fulfill the royal law, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” we are doing well. However, if we show partiality, we are committing sin. Honoring others is part of loving them. Dishonoring someone is a violation of the royal law of love. If we say that we love God, we must honor God. If we love others, we must honor them. We are starting a new series today, and we will be looking at a variety of ways that we can and should honor God, and others. God has called us to honor Him, and one another.

(James 2:2-8) “For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes, {3} and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, "You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, "You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool," {4} have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?...But you have dishonored the poor man.... {8} If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well.”

Our vision is to be a church that loves God with all our heart, and who also love one another. Therefore, it is important that we learn to love God by honoring Him. It is also important that we learn to love others by honoring them. This series is a reminder of who God has called us to be and how He has called us to act. We want to be a church that honors God and honors one another. That is how we are told to conduct ourselves in the church. In this series, we are going to take a more in-depth look at the various ways of honoring God and others. Five out of the eight messages are about ways that we are to honor God. The other three messages pertain to honoring others.

Honor Series

1. Honoring God with Thanksgiving
2. Honoring God’s Name
3. Honoring God with a Holy Life
4. Honoring God with our Wealth
5. Honoring our Father and Mother
6. Honoring the Son (Dec 24)
7. Honoring One Another
8. Honoring our Authorities

We are starting this series off with a message on honoring God with our thanksgiving. In our message today, we are going to look three reasons WHY we should honor God with thanksgiving. First, we find that it is God’s will for us to honor Him with thanksgiving. Second, we honor God with thanksgiving because He is worthy of our thanksgiving. Third, we honor God with thanksgiving because it pleases him.

1. We honor God with thanksgivings because it is God's will.

This week we celebrate one of my favorite holidays of the year, Thanksgiving. I think it is a wonderful holiday for a number of reasons. First, it is one of the most Biblically based holidays of the year. We are told in 1 Thessalonians 5 that we are to rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and in everything give thanks, because this is God's will for all of us who are in Christ Jesus. If you are a Christian, have received Christ into your life, then your life is to be characterized by thanksgiving. **It is God's will for us to give thanks.** That is God's will for us every day, not just at Thanksgiving.

(1 Thess 5:16-18) "Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Every day, I purposely give thanks to God and others. I start my prayers off with thanksgiving. When I wake up, I immediately begin thanking God. I thank Him for my salvation. I thank Him for my wife. I thank Him for His word. I thank Him for His love. I thank Him for His provision. Throughout my life God has faithfully provided for me and our large family. There have been so many difficult times, but God has faithfully provided. I am so thankful for His provision, and I tell Him every day how much I appreciate it. I thank God for my children. I thank Him for the people in this church, and how much each of you has blessed me. I call out your names and give thanks. I have so much to be thankful about, and that is how I start my prayers in the morning.

God tells us in Psalm 100 that **we should enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.** That is how we should come into His presence. In our corporate prayer meetings, we start with the first few minutes of prayer time by giving thanks and giving praise. We do not go into the throne room of God and start demanding what He should do for us. We don't start with our list of things that we want Him to do. We enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. I have tried to lay this foundation in our corporate prayers. I must tell you that this has not been easy. You would think it would be easy, but most people have not been taught to enter into prayer with thanksgiving. I have had to bring correction at times to our leadership team about how we enter into prayer, and this was not easy. I believe that the foundation has been laid, and when we enter corporate prayer, it is natural for us to give thanks and praises. We have grown so much in this area, and I rejoice at our progress in this area.

(Ps 100:4) "Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name."

In Acts 15, James stood up among the leaders that were gathered and spoke about the rebuilding of the tabernacle of David which had fallen. He said that the Lord was going to rebuild and restore it so that men will seek the Lord. Part of the plan for the ingathering of souls in the last days is worship. We are in the last days and God is rebuilding the tabernacle of David. That is His will.

(Acts 15:16-18) "'After these things I will return, and I will rebuild the tabernacle of David which has fallen, and I will rebuild its ruins, and I will restore it, {17} so that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by My Name,' {18} says the Lord, who makes these things known from long ago.'"

What was the tabernacle of David? What did he do. He set up musicians from the Levites to worship and give thanks. Look at 1 Chronicles 25. It says that David and the commanders set apart for the service some of the sons of Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun, and they were to prophesy with lyres, harps and cymbals. And in verse three, they were to prophesy “in giving thanks and praising the Lord.” Part of what God wants to do today is raise up worshipers who give thanks and praises to Him. That is God’s will for all of us. **We have all been called to worship and give thanks to Him.**

(1 Chron 25:1-3) “Moreover, David and the commanders of the army set apart for the service some of the sons of Asaph and of Heman and of Jeduthun, who were to prophesy with lyres, harps and cymbals...who prophesied in giving thanks and praising the LORD.”

2. We honor God with our thanksgivings because He is worthy. (Rom 11:33-36, Ps 103)

The second reason that we should honor God with thanksgiving is that He is worthy. **Everything that we have is from God.** Paul asked in Romans 11, “who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to Him again?” None of us have first given to God. Everything that we have has been provided to us by God. He goes on to say, for from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. Do you have life? He has made you and given you life. Do you have provision? He has provided for you. Do you have joy or peace? He has given it to you. Do you have wisdom? He has given you wisdom. Are you forgiven of your sins? He has forgiven you. Do you have purpose in life? He formed you and gave you abilities, desires, and a purpose in life. Everything you have is from Him.

(Rom 11:35-36) “Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to him again? {36} For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.”

Lately, we have been singing a song in worship called You Are Worthy. It says:

All the saints and angels, bow before Your throne.
All the elders cast their crowns before the Lamb of God and sing.

You are worthy of it all. You are worthy of it all.
From You are all things, to you are all things.
You deserve the glory.

Day and night, night and day, let incense arise
Day and night, night and day, let incense arise
Day and night, night and day, let incense arise
Day and night, night and day, let incense arise

Why is He worthy of it all? He is worthy of it all because from Him are all things. He deserves all the glory and the honor. Since all things have come from Him, we should give thanks to Him for all things. I want to go back to the meaning of Timothy’s name. I said it meant to honor God. Let me share more information about it. Time means a value, or money paid. It is a price that has been paid for something that is valuable. Do you know why God is worthy of it all? Do you know why we should honor God with our thanks? Because He paid the ultimate price for you and I.

(Strong’s G5092) Time: a value, i.e. money paid, valuables; esteem, dignity

Peter tells us that we have not been “redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.” Jesus paid the ultimate price for us, His own life. Because He paid the ultimate price, He is to be honored.

(1 Peter 1:18-19) “knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, {19} but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.”

In Psalm 103, we are exhorted to bless the Lord with all that is within us. **We are not to forget any of His benefits.** He pardons all your iniquities. He heals all our diseases. He redeems our life from the pit. He crowns us with lovingkindness and compassion. He satisfies our years with good things. We have so much to be thankful about. He is worthy to be thanked because of all that He has done for us. We are great beneficiaries who should give thanks for everything.

(Ps 103:1-5) “Bless the LORD, O my soul, And all that is within me, bless His holy name. {2} Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits; {3} Who pardons all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases; {4} Who redeems your life from the pit, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion; {5} Who satisfies your years with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle.”

Why is it that some people are not grateful? I believe one of the main reasons is pride. They don't realize that everything they have is from God. They lack humility. In Deuteronomy 8 God brought them into a good land. He provided everything that they had. He told them that when they had eaten and were satisfied, they were to bless the Lord for what He had given them. Then, He warned them, saying “Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God for the good land He has given you.” then He warned them against becoming proud and forgetting the Lord who had brought them out of Egypt. You and I were not brought out of Egypt and we are not living in the actual land that He gave Israel. But, I believe it was a picture for all of us. For those of us who have received Christ, He has freed us from bondage. He has led us out of our Egypt. He has brought us into the Promised Land. God has provided us with everything that we have here on earth. He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. We are to continually give thanks to God so that we do not become proud. Giving thanks to God keeps our hearts soft and humble. Arrogant people expect things and demand things. **Humble people are grateful and give thanks for all things.**

(Deut 8:7-14) “For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing forth in valleys and hills; {8} a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey; {9} a land where you will eat food without scarcity, in which you will not lack anything; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. {10} When you have eaten and are satisfied, you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land which He has given you...{12} otherwise, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived in them, {13} and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, {14} then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.”

In addition to keeping our hearts humble, researchers have found that a heart of gratitude has many benefits for us. Amy Morin is a psychotherapist and author. She wrote an article entitled, 7

Scientifically Proven Benefits of Gratitude That Will Motivate You To Give Thanks Year-Round. Here are the seven things that she points out in an article for Forbes.com: (Print out article and have as a resource in the message.)

Seven Scientifically Proven Benefits of Gratitude

1. Gratitude opens the door to more relationships.
2. Gratitude improves physical health. (Grateful people experience fewer aches and pains...)
3. Gratitude improves psychological health. (Gratitude reduces a multitude of toxic emotions...)
4. Gratitude enhances empathy and reduces aggression.
5. Grateful people sleep better.
6. Gratitude improves self-esteem.
7. Gratitude increases mental strength.

We should honor God because He is worthy to be honored, not for the benefits that we receive by honoring Him. But, when we honor God with our thanksgiving, there are many benefits that we receive. We should honor other people by taking time to thank them. Our gratitude will endear us to others. There are relational benefits. And, there are also some health benefits. You cannot outgive God. When you honor Him, He will honor you. We should take time every day to reflect on what He has done for us, and to give Him honor, because He is worthy to be honored.

3. We honor God with our thanksgivings because it pleases Him. (Heb 13:15-16, Ps 69:30-31, Ps 50:1-23)

First, we honor God with thanksgiving because it is God's will for us. Second, we honor God with thanksgiving because He is worthy. Third, we honor God with our thanks because it pleases Him. In 2 Corinthians 5, Paul wrote that we have as our ambition to be pleasing to Him. Since our ambition is to please Him in all things, it is important to know what pleases God.

(2 Cor 5:9) "Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him."

A number of years ago Gary Chapman wrote a book called the Five Love Languages. In it he shares five different ways that people feel loved. Some people like words of affirmation. That makes them feel loved. Others like gifts. Some people like to have quality time. Others respond to physical touch. Some like to be served. Karen likes to be served, so when I make the bed every morning, it makes her feel appreciated and loved. If she wants a cup of tea, I will get up quickly and make it for her. I like to communicate to her how much I love and appreciate her, and one of the ways that I can do that is through serving her.

God is no different. If we have as our ambition to please Him, it makes sense that we discover what pleases God, and then make an effort to do those things. Let's take a look at what God says pleases Him.

In Hebrews 13, we are exhorted to continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name, and not to neglect doing good and sharing. Why? Because with such sacrifices God is pleased. Our sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving please God.

(Heb 13:15-16) “Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. {16} And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”

In Psalm 69, David said, “I will praise the name of God with son and magnify Him with thanksgiving. And it will PLEASE the Lord better than an ox or a young bull with horns and hoofs.” The priests were required to present sin offerings, and burnt offerings, and guilt offerings, and grain offerings, and peace offerings. There were all kinds of offerings that were required. But, David had discovered what really pleased the Lord. His praise and thanksgiving pleased God more than these ox or bulls that were sacrificed.

(Psalm 69:30-31) “I will praise the name of God with song and magnify Him with thanksgiving. {31} And it will please the LORD better than an ox or a young bull with horns and hoofs.”

In Luke’s gospel, he records the account of ten leprous men who were healed as Jesus was passing between Samaria and Galilee on His way to Jerusalem. As He entered the village, ten leprous men raised their voices and asked Him to have mercy on them. He told them to go show yourselves to the priests. As they obediently went, they were healed. Nine of them went on their way, but the tenth one “turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him.” The tenth leper honored and glorified God by giving thanks.

(Luke 17:11-18) “While He was on the way to Jerusalem, He was passing between Samaria and Galilee. {12} As He entered a village, ten leprous men who stood at a distance met Him; {13} and they raised their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" {14} When He saw them, He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they were going, they were cleansed. {15} Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, {16} and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan. {17} Then Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine—where are they? {18} "Was no one found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?"

Church, Jesus took notice of the tenth leper. The tenth leper did something that got Jesus’ attention. **God takes notice when we stop, turn back, fall on our face, and give thanks to Him for what He has done.** The majority did not turn back and give thanks. Today, in our culture, the majority do not stop and give thanks. Paul wrote Timothy and told him that in the last days difficult times will come. Men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving... Do you know that being ungrateful is listed with a pretty bad list of things that characterize the days we live in. The majority of people in our day are just like the nine lepers that do not stop and give thanks. They are ungrateful. We want to be the tenth leper that stops regularly, turns back, and gives thanks to God. We want to be a church full of grateful people.

(2 Tim 3:1-4) “But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. {2} For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, {3} unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, {4} treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,”

Stop and give thanks to those that worked in the children’s ministry. They took time to prepare their

lessons for the children. Instead of staying in service and being fed, they served and fed our children. Stop, turn back, and give them thanks.

Stop and give thanks to the greeters who welcomed you this morning. They got up a little earlier so they could get here early and greet you. Stop and give thanks to the media team that provided support to the worship team and to the message. Stop and give thanks to the worship team. The media team and the worship team sacrifice their time and come here during the week to practice. They get up early and are here around 8:00 on Sunday mornings to do a final practice. Thank them for their sacrifice and service.

Stop and give thanks to your Life Group leaders. They pray for you. They prepare meals for you. They clean their houses and invite you into their homes. They prepare spiritual meals for you. Leading people is not always easy. Stop, turn back, and give them thanks for what they do. Let's learn to be a light in these last days. Let your light of thanksgiving shine before others.

I want to look at one more passage in the Old Testament that deals with what pleases God. In Psalm 50, God reproved Israel. He did not reprove the Jews for their sacrifices. They had continually offered up their burnt offerings to Him. God told them that He really didn't need their animals. He owns everything, and if He was hungry, He wouldn't tell them.

(Ps 50:8-13) "I do not reprove you for your sacrifices, And your burnt offerings are continually before Me. {9} I shall take no young bull out of your house Nor male goats out of your folds. {10} "For every beast of the forest is Mine, The cattle on a thousand hills. {11} I know every bird of the mountains, And everything that moves in the field is Mine. {12} If I were hungry I would not tell you, For the world is Mine, and all it contains. {13} Shall I eat the flesh of bulls Or drink the blood of male goats?"

Then, He tells them what sacrifice He really wants. He said, "Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and pay your vows to the Most High." Then He tells them to call upon Him in the day of trouble, and He would rescue them, and they would honor Him. How would they honor Him? They would honor Him with thanksgiving for rescuing them. God wants us to stop and give thanks for the things that He does for us.

(Ps 50:14-15) "Shall I eat the flesh of bulls Or drink the blood of male goats? {14} Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving And pay your vows to the Most High; {15} Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me."

God concludes His rebuke by telling them to "consider this, you who forget God...He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; to him who orders his way aright I shall show the salvation of God." When we offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, we honor God. That pleases Him more than animal sacrifices. We should not forget God and the things that He continually does for us. We should stop and reflect on the many benefits that He provides. We have so much to give thanks about. **Our giving of thanks honors God.**

(Ps 50:22-23) "Now consider this, you who forget God, Or I will tear you in pieces, and there will be none to deliver. {23} "He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; And to him who orders his way aright I shall show the salvation of God."

In this Psalm, God gave two ways that we honor Him. We honor Him with our thanksgiving, and we honor Him by living upright lives. We will be covering how to honor Him with our lives in the third message of this series, so we will be coming back to this Psalm in a couple weeks.

Conclusion

I would like for us to individually take a minute to stop, turn back, and thank God for three things. Then, after our service is over, stop, turn back, find someone that has served you today or this week, and thank them for their service. Let's be a church that honors God with our thanksgiving, and who honors others with our thanksgivings.

Church, we are going to conclude our service this morning with a baptism. Pastor Bill Bice is going to give a few words about baptism, and then Justin Doyle is going to baptize Sarah Doyle. After the baptism, Pastor Bill is going to dismiss us. Again, find someone to thank, and take a minute to give them thanks.

Let's pray.

Introduction (Mal 1:6, 1 Tim 3:15, 1:17, 6:15b-16, 1 Sam 2:29-30, James 2:1-9)

- We are called to honor _____ and _____.

1. We honor God with thanksgivings because it is God's will.

- It is God's _____ for us to give thanks. (1 Thess 5:16-18)
- We should enter His gates with _____ and His courts with praise. (Ps 100:4)
- We have all been called to worship and give _____ to Him. (Acts 15:16-18, 1 Chron 25:1-3)

2. We honor God with our thanksgivings because He is worthy.
(Rom 11:33-36, 1 Peter 1:18-19)

- _____ that we have is from God. (Rom 11:35-36)
- We are not to forget any of His _____. (Ps 103:5)
- _____ people are grateful and give thanks for all things. (Deut 8:7-14)

3. We honor God with our thanksgivings because it pleases Him. (2 Cor 5:9, Heb 13:15-16, Ps 69:30-31, Ps 50:1-23)

- God takes _____ when we stop, turn back, fall on our face, and give thanks to Him for what He has done. (Luke 17:11-18, 2 Tim 3:1-4)
- Our giving of thanks _____ God. (Ps 50:8-23)

Three Things To Thank God For

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

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- It is God's _____ for us to give thanks. (1 Thess 5:16-18)
- We should enter His gates with _____ and His courts with praise. (Ps 100:4)
- We have all been called to worship and give _____ to Him. (Acts 15:16-18, 1 Chron 25:1-3)

2. We honor God with our thanksgivings because He is worthy.
(Rom 11:33-36, 1 Peter 1:18-19)

- _____ that we have is from God. (Rom 11:35-36)
- We are not to forget any of His _____. (Ps 103:5)
- _____ people are grateful and give thanks for all things. (Deut 8:7-14)

3. We honor God with our thanksgivings because it pleases Him. (2 Cor 5:9, Heb 13:15-16, Ps 69:30-31, Ps 50:1-23)

- God takes _____ when we stop, turn back, fall on our face, and give thanks to Him for what He has done. (Luke 17:11-18, 2 Tim 3:1-4)
- Our giving of thanks _____ God. (Ps 50:8-23)

Three Things To Thank God For

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.