

Our goal in this series is to learn, or relearn, that we can give thanks to the Lord in all seasons of life. Whatever our circumstances, we can be thankful!

We clearly recognize how God's hand is moving in our lives in ways we could not see, leading and guiding us! Blessing us beyond measure, opening doors that draw us closer to himself!

We give thanks and are grateful because God is always working for us! Now, that may sound strange to our ears, but I want to unpack that together, seeing that in Christ, God is working in and through our lives, yes always for his glory, but also for our blessing!

Text: Romans 8:31

I. How is God working on our behalf?

A. He <u>began</u> the work of salvation in us.
- Vs. Philippians 1:6

"The gospel is not a "help wanted" sign. It is a "help available" sign."
(1 Peter 4:11)

B. He blesses us with beyond measure. - Vs. Ephesians 1:3

"We can "bless" God only in thanksgiving of heart and voice, with which He deigns to be pleased, as He "rejoices over the works of His hands." God blesses us in real and life-giving "spiritual blessing," i.e., blessing of the gift of the Spirit, for which we can return nothing except thanksgiving."

NOTE: What are these spiritual blessings?
a) Regeneration
b) Adoption
c) Indwelling
d) Sealing
e) empowerment for service
f) Physical needs met

Application:
It is so important to know that God works for me, meaning I can't do the work! When we realize that truth, we are humbled and Christ is exalted!

It is how we can live in peace and contentment of the Lord, knowing that whatever transpires in my life, he is working all things for my good and his glory!