

Obedience Through Thanksgiving (Psalm 105)

Genuine thanksgiving flows from obedience, and obedience is sustained by a grateful heart that remembers God's faithfulness.

Thanksgiving is not merely verbal gratitude; it's an active expression of faith that results in obedience. When God's people remember His works, they are strengthened to obey His Word.

1. Thanksgiving Begins with Remembering God's Faithfulness

- Giving thanks must lead to proclaim God's greatness: Thanksgiving leads back to obedience
- We must remember not only what God has done, but also who He is!
- Before we complain about today's struggles, remember God's deliverances yesterday.
- After George Washington's victory at Yorktown, he declared a day of thanksgiving to God, reminding a weary nation that liberty was not man's achievement but God's providence.

2. Thanksgiving Sustains Obedience during Trials

- Thanksgiving is not just for blessings, but also for God's sovereignty during suffering
- Obedience through Thanksgiving requires Trust
- Corrie ten Boom, imprisoned in a Nazi camp, thanked God even for fleas in her barracks; later discovering the guards avoided that area because of them, allowing secret Bible studies to continue.

3. Thanksgiving promotes a Lifestyle of Obedience

- True thanksgiving is not an emotion but a decision. We express it through obedience: in service, generosity, forgiveness, and faithfulness.
- Gratitude that stops at words is incomplete; obedience is thanksgiving lived out.
- When the Pilgrims celebrated the first Thanksgiving in 1621, they gave thanks not merely for survival but in obedience to God's providence, trusting His continued care.
- Psalm 105 reminds us that thanksgiving is the foundation of obedience

Hymn: We Gather Together (1597) We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; He chastens and hastens His will to make known; the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing. Sing praises to His name, He forgets not His own

Is your thanksgiving and obedience in balance?

- 1. Read Psalm 105:1–2; Matthew 28:19-20. What does it mean to "make known his deeds among the peoples"? How does gratitude motivate evangelism?
- 2. Psalm 105:5; Deuteronomy 8:11-18. Why is remembering God's past faithfulness essential for present obedience? List three personal Ebenezers (moments God has helped you).
- 3. Psalm 105:8–11; Hebrews 6:13-18. How does God's covenant faithfulness shape our gratitude today? How does God's unchanging nature build trust in your obedience?
- 4. Psalm 105:17–19; James 1:2-4. How can we be thankful while "the word of the Lord tests us"? Share a time when hardship led to deeper obedience and gratitude.
- 5. Psalm 105:23–25; Romans 8:28. What can we learn about trusting God's plan when circumstances worsen before they improve? How can you thank God in the waiting room of life?
- 6. Psalm 105:26–38; Exodus 12:12-13. How did God's mighty acts in Egypt show both His justice and mercy? How do you see God's justice and mercy in your story?
- 7. Psalm 105:39–41; Philippians 4:19. How does God's provision in the wilderness display His care for His people? What manna moments has God given you recently?
- 8. Psalm 105:42–45; Romans 6:17-18. What connection does the psalm make between deliverance and obedience? How does gratitude fuel holiness in your daily life?
- 9. What's one act of Thanksgiving and one step of obedience you plan to make this week?