







# **TOOL 2 - BECOMING A THANKFUL PERSON**

One item at a time. Connect with each one. Then thank God.

"Always give thanks for all things." (Ephes. 5:20)

"Forget none of His benefits" (Psalm 103)

"Enter His gates with Thanksgiving and His courts with Praise" (Psalm 100:4)

# 1. PRICELESS ETERNAL THINGS: (These cannot be taken from us.)

- What a Great Person He Is: All-Knowing, All-Powerful, Perfect in everything and in every way, Omnipresent, Majestic, Eternal . . .
- Possessing: All Authority Knowledge, Wisdom, Dominion, and Glory...
- Full Of: Graciousness, Compassion, Loving-kindness, Truth (God explains Himself Exodus 34)
   Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-Control
   Mercy, Humility (Gal. 5:22)
  - God is a very nice person, whom anyone would want to Love and Serve.
- A Perfect Ruler, A Perfect Leader, A Perfect Ruler Father...
- Rejoice that our names our written in Heaven! (Luke 10:20)
- No Hell! Get to go to Heaven! (Luke 10:20)
- We are a son or daughter of the Maker of the Universe!! A CHILD OF GOD! (1 John 3)
- We can come to God anytime, come into His actual presence, come before His throne anytime and talk to Him! (Hebrews 4:16)
- HIS FEROCIOUS, BURNING, VIOLENT, BURNING LOVE FOR ALL HIS CHILDREN (Jer. 31:3) (This is displayed and seen in His creation of the "momma bear" over her cubs)
- JESUS LOVES US IN THE SAME WAY, MANNER, AND DEGREE THAT THE FATHER LOVES HIM." (John 15:9) . . . What?
- Overall, we have a Happier, more Peaceful and Joyful Heart!
- The God of the Universe lives inside of us! (1 Jn 4:13)
- God's Provision, Protections, Guidance, and Deliverances (The Lord's Prayer Matt 6)
- God gives us His Wisdom & Perspective, especially when we ask for it. (James 1:5)
- Ongoing forgiveness of sins, and freeing us from sin! (1 John 1:9)
- We continually get changed into His image and character! (2 Cor 3:18)
- God Likes Us! God Loves Us!
- Our God is a good God, who does no evil, wrong, or make mistakes.
- King Jesus will be our Friend when no one else will. (John 14:21)
- God grants requests and answers prayer. We can get help from God! "Everyone who Asks Receives." (Matt 7:8)

- Partake in His Eternal Ministry Work with God and partake in the joy of His Work.
- **Depth of Biblical Revelation**! "Many prophets and kings longed to see what you see..." (Luke 10:24 NET)
- Thanks to God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ for being tortured and dying for me instead of me.
- The option of a heart free from troubles and fear. A command, really. (John 14:27)
- The option to be continually filled with Joy and the Holy Spirit (Acts 13:52, John 15:11, John 16:24) A command, really. (Ephes. 5:18)
- All those people God sent into our life to help us . . .
- You came and got each of us...when we were lost and in darkness... AND ALL THE PAIN YOU EXPERIENCED AND EXPERIENCE...
- All the pain You endure as you oversee the millions of Your children...
- All the pain You endure as You work to save all the millions who are lost and in darkness. . .
- Because God now lives inside of us, we now have the power over all sin, power to control ourselves, power to completely obey all of Jesus's commands (and thus obey "The Law"), and power to fully please God through Him! WE HAVE GOD INSIDE OF US.
- We are now the walking miracle of a changed person who now wants to do what is right 24/7.
- WE ARE ABLE TO "FIND HIM!" make "contact" with Him! (Matt 11:28, Jer. 29:13)
- The Loving Command to not only Come to Him and before His Throne (Hebrews 4:16). . . BUT,
   TO EMBRACE, CLEAVE, CLING, HUG HIM WITHOUT SHAME OR FEAR! (Deut 13:4)

## 2. OTHER PRICELESS THINGS: (These can be taken from us.)

- Good Health Physical? Emotional? Mental? Spiritual?
- Get up daily and be able to Walk and Talk?
- Good friend(s)? Do you have any good friends?
- Good spouse? Priceless!
- Is our spouse also a good friend? Priceless!
- Is our spouse still our boyfriend/girlfriend?! Priceless!
- Children? Abraham had to wait until his late 90's for his first child from the Lord.
- **Good Children?** Are your kids pretty good kids? ("I have no greater joy than to hear my children walk in the truth." (3 John 1:4)
- Enjoy your Job/Work? "A gift from God." Eccles. 3:13
- Freedom to worship without being jailed, tortured, etc.?
- Good church leadership? Wise, God-filled leadership with integrity? Priceless.

## 3. PERSONAL JOYS GOD LETS US DO/HAVE: (These can be taken from us.)

#### Examples:

- Fun Spouse or friends. Fun dates? Trips?
- Watch good movies.
- Enjoy beautiful scenery.
- Drive vehicle that doesn't break down all the time.
- Have air conditioning.
- Have my favorite foods or desserts.
- Do my favorite hobby.
- Safe Neighborhood? Infrequent break-ins/ robberies?

#### 4. DELIVERANCES - 4 TRIALS of LIFE

- **Health?** How has God delivered you or your loved ones in this arena? Write these instances down and be able to recite them easily.
- **Finances?** Besides just steadily providing for us, how has He bailed us out in particularly large financial crises? List and review.
- **Relationships?** How has He intervened in our loneliness, strained relationships, broken relationships, lost relationships, etc.?
- Demonic Oppressions/Depressions?

### 5. LUXURIES THAT THE KINGS OF HISTORY DID NOT HAVE:

- **Electricity!** Provides tons of conveniences and pleasures!
- <u>Air Conditioning</u> It is a gnawing burden to live, work, and try to sleep in hot climates without air conditioning!
- Abundant Food even most poor street people in our Western cities can easily get a meal from the multiple soup kitchens, food banks, food pantries, Salvation Army centers, churches, Federal food stamps, etc.
- 5-Star Restaurant Food Recipes & how to make them easily available on the internet/TV
- **Modern Heating Systems!** The traditional chore of heating a home through the gathering and preparing of firewood can be a ton of work!
- Light Bulbs! Flick a switch for bright light!
- <u>Window Screens!</u> <u>Said to be the largest contribution to the sanity of man!</u> Not invented until early 1800's!
- **Clean Water** Many in the world do not enjoy this luxury and suffer not having it through increased sickness & diseases, and poorer health.
- Indoor Plumbing Need a drink, turn the tap. Need a nice hot shower, turn the dial. So nice.
- Sewer Systems Flush and it's gone!
- **Appliances** Refrigerators, Freezers, Ice Makers/Ice Cube (Emperors made runners run up mountains to fetch them their ice for a cold drink),
- Washing Machines, Dryers, Microwaves, Stoves, Garbage Disposals
- DVD Players and Digital Music Players
- Symphonies on Demand! Quality Motion Pictures on demand!
- Cars, Boats, Motorcycles, Airplanes, and Trains And the fun of riding in them!
- **Television** Travel the world from your living room!
- Computers and the World Wide Web!
- Glass Magnifying glass, Microscopes, Windows, Telescopes, etc.
- Eye Glasses and Contacts! Surgeries. To be able to see well! Fantastic!
- Photography and Home Moviemaking. No one dreamed to become a common luxury.
- **Telephones and Smart Phones** Talk to anyone on earth in real-time!
- **SMART PHONES** ONE DEVICE: Phone, Clock/Watch, Calculator, GPS, Music, Movies, Quality Camera, Video Recording, Mail, Texting, Book Library, Flashlight, Live News from around the world, Photo Album, Encyclopedia Set, Live Weather/Radar Map, Calendar, Internet, etc...and tons more!...What?...INCREDIBLE.
- Video Gaming! A ton of fun!
- **The Gasoline Engine** allows for Lawn Mowers, Chain Saws, inexpensive Boats, Motorcycles, Snowmobiles, Generators, Cement Mixers and more!
- **The Electric Motor** allows for Vacuum Cleaners, Electric Drills, Electric Saws, Kitchen Mixers, Can Openers, Sewing Machines and more!
- **The Bicycle!** (Remember your first bike?)

- **Book Binding and The Printing Press** (vs. scrolls. Also, everything had to be laboriously hand-copied)
- **Calculators** the first commercial pocket calculators were very expensive.
- **Dentistry** (alleviates a lot of misery!)
- Medicines & Pharmaceuticals Many children died prematurely from the common cold that
  progressed to inner ear infections then to the brain incurable until the invention of antibiotics.
  Other diseases and plagues dominated through field of medicine: leprosy, polio, typhus, typhoid,
  measles, etc.
- **Plastics** (Allows for creation of inexpensive toys and all types of things for everybody)
- **Ice Cream!** Jokingly said to be able to solve all the world's problems.
- The Match! (Instant fire!)
- Inexpensive Paper, Ink, and Pens
- Radios
- Rubber and Rubber Balls! Fairly difficult to manufacture.
- **Inexpensive Watches.** These used to cost a lot of money. Now cheap.
- Batteries. Not long ago difficult to store electricity cheaply & easily.
- **Guns!** (Lions and other big cats once ruled the night and struck fear into the hearts of men for ages. Guns helped end this.)
- **Elevators** (allowing for high-rise construction, the decrease of heart attacks, and laborious stair climbing.)
- **Welding.** A fantastic invention of fusing many materials together.
- Photocopying! Instant replication of documents!
- Nuclear Power
- Transistors and Solid-State Electronics
- Vitamins
- **Aerosol Cans** (We are now able to propel many atomized materials)
- Commodes/Toilets and Toilet Paper
- The Hot Water Heater Hot Showers!
- Amusement Parks and Rides!
- **Concrete!** (Inexpensive man-made rock!)
- Concrete and Asphalt Roads (vs. mud roads)
- Cardboard and Cardboard Boxes
- Vinyl Flooring and Vinyl Products
- **Anesthetics!** (Imagine surgeries without these!)
- **Tape** (Clear wrapping tape, duct tape, packaging tape all types!)
- **Aspirin** a very inexpensive pain reliever
- The Mirror!
- **Sound Amplification** (Imagine innumerable meetings and gatherings without this luxury)
- **Microscope** (Opened up new galaxies to explore, and the germ world to be exposed, identified, and dominated)
- **Zipper** (vs. having to hand-button everything)
- Shoe Technologies (Inexpensive, quality footwear
- Foam Rubber (We spend a lot of our time sitting)
- Fiberglass and Fiberglass Insulation
- **Wealth of Dental and Medical knowledge**, skill, and expertise (Alleviating tons of pain and misery) (quackery also minimized)
- MRI and CAT Scan Technologies (to help see through tissues and better diagnose ailments)
- Inexpensive Wall-to-Wall Carpet and Carpet Technologies
- Cotton Usage from the Cotton Plant (allows for inexpensive clothing)
- Weaving, Loom, and Textile Machine Technologies (Inexpensive clothing)
- Inexpensive 4-Color Home Printers!
- Plastic Garbage Bags and Twist Ties

- Online Educational Classes of All Types (The knowledge of how to do almost anything more easily and quickly)
- Inexpensive Safety Razors for Shaving
- The Fax Machine (Almost instant document transmission around the world)
- Glass, Plexiglas, Safety Glass, and Acrylic Glass
- The Rubber Band, The Scissors, The Stapler, the Paper Clip, and other practical tools. Easy to take these for granted.
- **Wire Technologies!** (Allows for the ability to produce wiring for everything from paper clips, sewing needles, dental braces, window screens, much- needed inexpensive fencing to wire for the transmission of electricity, etc.)
- Our Own Personal Set(s) of Holy Scriptures (Centuries ago a luxury; few could own their own Scripture)
- Innumerable Bible Study Guides, Study Aids, Commentaries, Translations, Classes, etc.
- Bronze Age to Iron Age to Steel Age to Stainless Steel and Aluminum and Metal Alloys (Cars used to rust away quickly.)
- **Machine Design & Construction** (allows for inexpensive mass-production of almost every type of product so more people can enjoy them)
- **Instant Messaging & Email** (No more waiting days or weeks for a telegram or a conventional letter in the mail once coming by horseback and/or by sea! Communicate to almost anyone almost instantaneously!)

## 6. My Book of Remembrance

- Document, Date, Write-down & Remember - the momentous things God did for us Individually. Things that He did that really helped us. . . Thank Him forever.