

**ATMOSPHERE OF APPRECIATION
AND GRATITUDE**

- **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** Always be joyful. 17 Never stop praying. 18 **Be thankful** in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. NLT
- **2 Timothy 3:1-5** You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. 2 For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, **and ungrateful**. They will consider nothing sacred. 3 They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. 4 They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. 5 They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that! NLT

Reflect on your present blessings,

Of which every man has many,

Not on your misfortunes,

Of which all men have some – Charles Dickens

- **Appreciation and gratitude are both powerful concepts.**
 - **Appreciation:** the act of estimating the qualities of things and giving them their proper value.
 - Appreciation is when something grows in value.
 - Depreciate is the opposite of appreciate.
- **Gratitude:** the quality or feeling of being grateful or thankful:
 - Gratitude, then, adds a feeling of emotional indebtedness toward someone who has done something you appreciate.
- One (appreciation) is the foundation for the other (gratitude). But we need them both. Appreciation must precede gratitude.
- Appreciation and Gratitude go a long way in encouraging!

A Biblical Account of Appreciation and Gratitude

- Philippians a letter overflowing with Joy and Thanksgiving
- **Philippians 4:15-20** As you know, you Philippians were the only ones who gave me financial help when I first brought you the Good News and then traveled on from Macedonia. No other church did this. 16 Even when I was in Thessalonica you sent help more than once. 17 I don't say this because I want a gift from you. Rather, I want you to receive a reward for your kindness. 18 At the moment I have all I need—and more! I am generously supplied with the gifts you sent me with Epaphroditus. They are a sweet-smelling sacrifice that is acceptable and pleasing to God. 19 And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus. 20 Now all glory to God our Father forever and ever! Amen. NLT

Paul's expression of Appreciation and Gratitude

Philippians 1:1-11 From Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus. To all of God's holy people in Christ Jesus who live in Philippi, including your elders and deacons: 2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God every time I remember you, 4 always praying with joy for all of you. 5 I thank God for the help you gave me while I preached the Good News — help you gave from the first day you believed until now. 6 God began doing a good work in you, and I am sure he will continue it until it is finished when Jesus Christ comes again.

7 And I know that I am right to think like this about all of you, because I have you in my heart. All of you share in God's grace with me while I am in prison and while I am defending and proving the truth of the Good News. 8 God knows that I want to see you very much, because I love all of you with the love of Christ Jesus.

9 This is my prayer for you: that your love will grow more and more; that you will have knowledge and understanding with your love; 10 that you will see the difference between good and bad and will choose the good; that you will be pure and without wrong for the coming of Christ; 11 that you will do many good things with the help of Christ to bring glory and praise to God. NCV

- Pauls' 3 expressions to the people:
 - Shared his gratitude for them
 - Shared his love for them
 - Shared his prayer for them
- This can be an example of how we can express appreciation and gratitude!

- **Our Gratitude**

- To the Leadership at KFOC
- To all you who serve at KFOC
 - I am grateful for every person here at KFOC.
- To all who partner in the gospel
- A continuation of the good work Christ is doing in you and will continue to do!

- **Our Love**

- “I hold you in my heart”

- **Our prayers for you!**

- This is my prayer for you: that your love will grow more and more; that you will have knowledge and understanding with your love; I O that you will see the difference between good and bad and will choose the good; that you will be pure and without wrong for the coming of Christ; I I that you will do many good things with the help of Christ to bring glory and praise to God. NCV
 - that your love will grow more and more (for each other and the lost)
 - that you will have **knowledge and understanding** with your love
 - that you will see the difference between good and bad and will choose the good
 - that you will be pure and without wrong for the coming of Christ;
 - that you will do many good things with the help of Christ to bring glory and praise to God!

