



~ FIVE-DAY ~

THANKS GIVING

DEVOTIONAL

By Brian Holtz
CEO, Compass Financial Ministry



As with many of the key elements of our financial lives, I think we too often “celebrate Thanksgiving” without intentionality and truly giving thanks for the things worth celebrating. Just like giving without a spirit of love or budgeting without first seeking God’s will, we often take a few days off work, spend time with family and friends, and watch a football game without ever pausing to really appreciate who God is and what He’s done. We check all the boxes on the holiday without truly celebrating the holiday.

This five-day devotional is meant to help us all focus on the most important element of Thanksgiving, giving thanks to God for all He has done, is doing, and will do in us and through us.

The truth is, you won’t find anything new from Compass here – no fresh perspectives on debt or the implications of inflation on honoring God with money and possessions. Only a tactical tool to encourage you to pause, reflect, and truly give thanks to the Provider of everything good in your life.

So grab a cup of coffee and maybe a blanket and enjoy a little extra time with the Lord!

In Christ,

Brian Holtz, CEO

DAY ONE

Psalm 34 - "Taste and see that the Lord is good of David, when he changed his behavior before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away."

In this Psalm, David is reflecting on a time of extreme persecution in his life. What difficult time has God led you through that you never thanked Him for?

Verse 18 tells us, "The LORD is close to the brokenhearted." Is there anything that is breaking your heart right now that you need to feel God's closeness in?

Who in your life probably feels like David felt and needs your prayers and support?

What five things can you thank God for today?

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DAY TWO

Psalm 65 - "Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed. O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come."

In this Psalm, David points out some of the incredible things God has created. What things in nature are you most in awe of?

Throughout the Psalm, David lists the ways God provides for His creation. What are some of the things God provides to make those most awe-inspiring parts of creation happen? For example, if you thought of flowers, God provides soil, light, rain, etc.

In Matthew 6:26-30, Jesus makes it clear that if God provides for the rest of nature, He will provide for us – His children – even more. In what ways has He provided for you?

What five things can you thank God for today? (try to think of things you didn't list yesterday)

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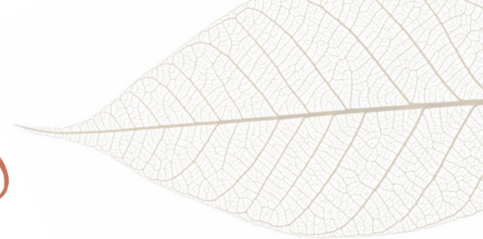
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DAY THREE



Psalm 103 - "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!"

In verse 4, David points out that God redeems our lives from the pit and crowns us with love and compassion. He doesn't just rescue us from the terrible fate we deserve, He lifts us up and crowns us with love! In what situations in your life have you seen this to be true?

Verse 12 says that God's love is greater than the height of the heavens above the earth and verse 17 says His love is with us from everlasting to everlasting. What other ways would you describe the magnitude of God's love to a child?

List a few times when you asked God for something and He gave you more or better than you asked for.

What five things can you thank God for today? (try not to list things from previous days)

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DAY FOUR

Psalm 136 - "His Steadfast Love Endures Forever - Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever."

Although we have no earthly perspective to fully understand God's love, we do experience unexpected and unmerited love in our lives. Who are some people who have shown you exceptional love throughout your life?

This Psalm walks us through Israel's story as God's love is expressed through his provision and protection. Who in your life has walked alongside you the longest and in what ways have they provided and protected you?

Who do you want to be that person for and what steps can you take toward that goal?

What five things can you thank God for today? (try not to list things from previous days)

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DAY FIVE



Psalm 148 - "Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!"

Reflect for a moment on all the things the Psalmist instructed to "praise the LORD." How would you explain to a child how things like the sun, moon, and stars can praise the LORD?

Verses 7 and 8 list some things we don't generally think of as good, but they still praise the LORD. What should we learn from this?

What are your favorite ways to praise and worship the LORD?

What five things can you thank God for today? (try not to list things from previous days)

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