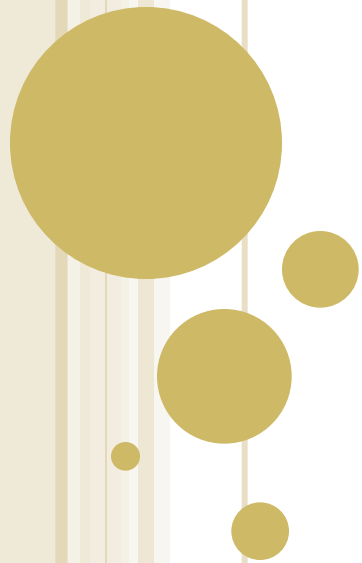




***“So they all ate and were filled, and twelve baskets of the leftover fragments were taken up by them.”
(Luke 9:17)***



GIVE THANKS

DOES GOD NEED OUR THANKS?

- “Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving...” (Ps. 50:14)
- “*There is not an abundance of blessings without thanksgiving.*” (St. Isaac the Syrian)



Isaac the Syrian



A THANKFUL PERSON KNOWS...

- God's love

- *“Let us give thanks to the beneficent and merciful God...”*
(Thanksgiving Prayer)

- Know Him as Pantocrator

- *“Let us also ask Him, the Lord our God, the Almighty, to guard us in all peace this holy day and all the days of our life.”*
(Thanksgiving Prayer)



DEGREES OF THANKSGIVING

1. Giving thanks for God's tangible blessings
2. To give thanks for things we do not see
 - *“we thank you...for you have guarded us.”*
(Thanksgiving Prayer)



DEGREES OF THANKSGIVING

3. Offering thanks during hardships or suffering
- “I now rejoice in my sufferings for you...” (Col. 1:24)
 - “...if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.” (Rom. 8:17)
 - “...in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thes. 5:18)



SOME REASONS WE DO NOT GIVE THANKS

Dissatisfied

Complaining



Egocentrism



Entitlement



CHARACTERISTICS OF A THANKFUL PERSON

1. They look at things from God's perspective
 - “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy **to be compared with** the glory which shall be revealed in us.” (Rom. 8:18)
2. Feel truly unworthy of God's care and love
 - “Who am I, O Lord God? And what is my house, that You have brought me this far.” (2 Sam. 7:18)
3. Content
 - “Remove falsehood and lies far from me; Give me neither poverty nor riches—Feed me with the food allotted to me.” (Prov. 30:8)



CHARACTERISTICS OF A THANKFUL PERSON

4. Joyful and Peaceful
5. Is loved by others
6. Rejoices in the success of others
 - “We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.” (2 Thes. 1:3)

