

SINGLE ALLIANCE

The 4:8 Principle- The Gratitude Attitude

I. Introduction

A. Today we are finishing the series on the 4:8 Principle

1. Philippians 4:8

B. Last week we talked about the importance of meditation of the Word

C. This week we will look at a major way we can experience the presence of God.

1. This is one of the greatest keys to living out the 4:8 Principle.

Thanksgiving centers your thoughts and words on those things that follow the 4:8 Principle. It activates the presence and blessing of God in your life. It is vital we have a gratitude attitude!

a. Ps. 69:30

b. Ps. 95:2

c. Ps. 100:4

d. Ps. 140:13

2. Thankfulness is the language of faith and hope. It focuses on what you have and what God will do for you.

3. **Matthew 13:12**- Whoever has more will be given, whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken away from them.

Thanksgiving is the focus on what you have and more will be given.

Complaining and negativity is the focus on what you do not have and what you do not like. What you do have will be slowly be taken away by the enemy.

D. A lifestyle of gratitude is a key to living a powerful and fruitful life but we must know that the enemy will fight us from living this way! There are obstacles to having a gratitude attitude that will try to rob our gratitude and give us a bad attitude that keeps us from experiencing the presence and blessing of God. Everyone can enjoy the presence of God by avoiding the obstacles to gratitude.

II. Obstacles to Gratitude

A. Excessive busyness- Robs you of moments to enjoy what you have.

B. Over exposure to media- You got to have it... You deserve it...

C. You owe me syndrome- This pervades our culture today. We have a covenant of unmerited favor. God does not owe us. People do not owe us. We expect and demand way too much from people. We should not expect or demand from others, but be thankful when they do things for us.

D. worry

E. materialism- The more you try to accumulate the less you enjoy what you do have. Hoarders do not enjoy what they have.

D. A scarcity mentality- The belief that there are just so many pieces of the pie.

E. Lack of intimacy with God- The presence of God is love and fullness.