

November 2020

#### Dear Partner,

This has been the most "unique" year of my life. Well, let me say it another way...this has been the *craziest* year I've ever experienced! The world has been turned upside down in so many ways, but all I can say is that **God has been faithful**, and so have *you*, Partner. In the midst of virus lockdowns, jobs lost, political battles, and worldwide turmoil, Partners like you have prayed for us and given faithfully to our ministry work every month—and as a result, we have been able to touch more souls than we ever have in our 44 years of preaching.

Due to the lockdowns this year, my traveling schedule came to a halt, and so we amped up our social media outreaches—and we've been able to reach more than we thought possible. People are listening to our messages and responding in record numbers to our ministry. What can I say but thank you to God? What can I say but thank you to *you*? This is what it's all about!

Your obedience to faithfully bless this ministry has helped us to grow and see more people than ever before respond to our message of hope and faith through a relationship with Jesus Christ. It's a dark world, and we're preaching and pushing the light! Thank you for helping us to do it, Partner. I'm praying for each and every one of you to experience the 100-fold return coming to you in this time—yes, even in this time! Favor, blessing, and new opportunities for increase are what I'm praying for you now.

In America, we celebrate Thanksgiving this month. I've had some Partners who aren't American tell me that they give special thanks on our Thanksgiving holiday, too, and I think that is just so kind. Any day that we give God heartfelt thanks is great, but there is just something special about knowing so many people are all doing it at once—I love it when we are all in one mind and one accord, showing gratitude to God. I believe it charges the spiritual atmosphere and makes receiving and making changes in our life much easier.

I consider our Partners like extended family, and I just love knowing we have our focus fixed on God. No matter what country we call home, when we are praying together and focused on Him, it's like we are holding hands all across this world—closing the distance between us and flooding this world with the power of love and light, which it so desperately needs.

I love the theme God gave me way back in January, "Great Expectation Gets Great Results," and I believe that, together, we *had* to expect more and get more this year than any other year. Our faith must always rise to meet the challenges of our days, and this year we've definitely had challenges!

# Let's Use the Encompassing Power of "Thank You" in Every Thing

Today, I want you to look with me at the scripture in Philippians 4:6. It says, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Now, why do you think it says "with thanksgiving" in that verse? I don't believe anybody would tell you to say "thank you" without the intention of giving you every thing you ask for in the first place. Partner, I believe that is what God is saying to you and to me. He wants to give us what we ask for in faith, but we must ask with thanksgiving. That is faith.

All we've got to do is ask, be careful for nothing, let our requests be known, and say *thank you*. It's pretty simple, isn't it? Let's not complicate what God simply wants us to do. Today, the first point I want to share with you is this: **God's goodness surrounds us when we say "thank you"—it creates an encompassing atmosphere that we can live in everywhere we go.** 

Partner, God wants to say *yes* to what you ask for in prayer. The Church has a hard time believing in God's will to say *yes*, but God has no problem believing His own Word—and you shouldn't have a problem believing it either. In His presence, we can lay down every anxiety. In His presence, we can rest from what is troubling us. In His presence, we can take refuge from any fear whatsoever. Now, that ought to make you shout!

You have a place of refuge and peace in God's presence, so get in His presence. Recognize that He is with you and on your side, and that faith is your ticket to letting go as well as seeing results. Realize that when you have faith in Him, His goodness surrounds you. Let faith be the atmosphere you walk in every day. Live in it instead of worry.

Remember that the Lord uses the words "every thing" for a reason in Philippians 4:6: "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." That is big. Every thing means every thing! It means that it doesn't matter what's going on—anxiety is still not God's best, even if the whole world says you should be anxious.

You may even have a good reason to worry, but God still says be careful for nothing. What's His best way of handling the situation? God's best is about bringing your prayers and supplications to Him with thanksgiving. You see, saying thank you ahead of time is an act of faith, and it's part of the process of receiving. So, do not forsake giving thanks. Let it be settled in your heart that you will not allow worry to take the place of faith. Decide that it's just a fact, as a believer, that you can choose your inner atmosphere. Determine that you will do what God says and express thanksgiving for every request you make known unto Him...and that you will not allow worry to be a part of your life.

#### Let's Live in the Radiant Atmosphere of Thanksgiving

The second point that I want to share today is this: **Don't be a person of little faith when you are making your requests known to our El Shaddai God**. Remember, the name El Shaddai means "more than enough"—in other words, God has more than enough to meet any need or desire in your heart. When you ask big and with thanksgiving, you are showing Him you've got great faith. You're showing Him that you *know* He is the God of more than enough and that He can do *whatever* you've got the guts to believe. Saying *thank you* is like sealing your faith in God.

When we refuse worry, make our requests known to God in faith, and walk in thankfulness to God for our answers, I like to say that we are living in the radiant atmosphere of thanksgiving. It's a luminous and joyful atmosphere, and it's full of great expectation. It's a "living" form of faith that doesn't evaporate the moment we say amen. No, it surrounds us, and it moves in us and with us. When life tries to show us the opposite, faith rises up to say, "No, I already talked to God about that, and He is working it out on my behalf! Thank you, God, for bringing me what I need and desire."

The radiant atmosphere of thanksgiving is a light-filled way of living—it dispels the darkness of worry, not with empty words but with living faith in El Shaddai God. He's more than enough. He knows it, and when we know it too, it changes the way we speak. We are transformed when we know that whatsoever we ask in His name, He will do (John 14:13-14). So, we might as well say thanks for every thing now! I'm really enjoying writing this letter...if you don't mind, I think I'm going to pause for a second so I can shout BIG!

# Let's Yield to God's Absolute Power and Become One with Him Let Him Take Over, Control the Conditions, and Lead Us

Well, now, let me get to my third point today: When you say "thank you" after you make your requests known to God, you are allowing the absolute power of God to take over, control the conditions, and lead every part of you in order to bring that request to pass. Now, that is powerful, Partner. It is powerful to yield to God in faith. It's powerful to give your will over to His will and to make His ways more important than your ways. A lot of people ask God for something, but they want to control how He gets it to them—faith doesn't do that.

Faith is about trust and letting God do His job. It's not faith if you try to control the "way" God fulfills your requests. Faith is about lining yourself up with God's Word and believing it. It's about giving your control over to God and working with Him, not against Him. Faith is about noticing and refusing to fall into the worry trap of "when/where/how" God is going to get it done, and simply doing what He said in Philippians 4:6: "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

When you allow the absolute power of God to take over, control the conditions, and lead every part of you in life, you are going to clash with Satan and all of his cohorts! You will encounter opposition because you are aligning yourself with God in spirit and in deed, and that is a threat to the work of the devil. You see, when you have faith in God like that, you and God are working together as *one*—and that means *you* are in control too…because you are working in tandem with God, Who has absolute power. When God says, "Do this," do it. When God says, "Go here," do it. When He says, "Don't worry, just ask and say thanks," guess what? You should do it! The sway of worry can't compete with the power of faith, and life is just plain better no matter what's going on when you trust God.

# Let's Allow God's Peace to Keep Our Hearts and Minds

Do you know what happens next when you exercise your faith with thanksgiving? Verse seven of Philippians chapter four kicks in! "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Partner, you can take that to the bank! God's Word brings peace. When you let go of worry, bring your requests to God in prayer, and say thank you in faith knowing that it's coming, your faith takes over everything temporal and spiritual—and Satan can't stop you from seeing your requests fulfilled by God.

Peace follows faith, and the devil hates the peace of God. He works to divide and to bring misery and anxiety to the whole world. As believers, strife isn't part of our life. We live in peace from the inside out. And, when we walk by faith, the peace of God comes flooding into our hearts and minds. As people of faith, we know that God's Word is true—He hears us, our faith works, and whatever we ask in His name is going to be done to His glory and to our benefit! Isn't that right, Partner? Let's go full force with thanksgiving and faith as we close out this year. From now on, say *thank you* in your prayers every single time. Start seeing it as just as important as saying your request. God will be pleased with your obedience to His Word.

As I wind down this letter, Partner, I have to say thank you once again for helping us reach the world for Jesus. That's all we do here! We reach people and change lives, one soul at a time. It's called the Great Commission, and it's found in Mark chapter 16. We are so thankful to see so many people responding to the Word in this "unique" year. People are seeing the problems of this world and realizing the evil that exists is real, and they are turning to God.

We are so blessed to speak words of faith, hope, and joy into the lives of people who are turning toward God and looking for hope in today's world. Eyes are opening, hearts are opening, and people are being touched and changed. Glory to God! The more you bless this ministry, the more people we can reach for Jesus. Cathy and I always appreciate your partnership with us to change lives, but we are especially thankful during this time in history. It's wonderful to see people from all over the world being drawn to the wonderful love and light of God!

We want you to know that we are praying daily for you to receive the 30, 60, and 100-fold return on your giving, and we're praying for your faith in God to surge higher and higher as we move toward the end of 2020. It's our prayer that the favor of God will surround you and that His blessing be upon you no matter what!

Cathy and I believe that God wants you blessed, and we are in agreement with God! We want to see you blessed in every way, too—spiritually, physically, financially, and in all of your relationships too. It's our prayer every day that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers, and that every desire of your heart comes to pass, in Jesus' name (3 John 2; Psalm 37:4).

To all of my Partners in America, *Happy Thanksgiving!* And to all of my Partners in other countries around the world... *Happy Thanksgiving* to you, too! Let's give thanks no matter where we live. Why not? Let's *ask* BIG and *thank* BIG! Let's allow faith and peace to lift us up. Remember that we are all family, and with prayer and thanksgiving, we can reach around the world in faith and hold each other's hands in the spirit. We can see ALL of our great expectations produce great results!

Vesse Duplantis

P.S. For your November Partnership of \$50 or more, remember to request my message, *Knowledge: The Ingredient to Think Big* (on DVD, CD, or both formats). Or for you November Partnership of any amount, you can request this message on CD. See the enclosure or go to JDM.org and click on "Donate" to get your copy. And while you're browsing the website, remember that you can click on "Partnership" and "Partner Letter" to download a copy of this letter and the FREE Bible Study Notes. Thank you, Partner. We love you!





# Let's Use the Encompassing Power of "Thank You" in Every Thing!

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Philippians 4:6

# November 2020

**Partner Letter Bible Study Notes** 

# The Encompassing Power of "Thank You!" 1 Week NOVEMBER 2020 Bible Study Notes

## Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

When we stand together in prayer and obey God's instructions, we can accomplish more than we ever thought possible.

- Our faith must always rise to meet the challenges of our days, and this year we've definitely had challenges!
- The world has been turned upside down in so many ways, but God has been faithful.

Long before the lockdowns, jobs lost, political battles, and worldwide turmoil, God gave us our theme for this year: "Great Expectation Gets Great Results!"

• We believe that we all had to expect more and get more this year than any other year.

# Last month our Bible Study topic was: "The Battle Is the Lord's, BUT the Fight Is Yours!"

- We saw how a young shepherd boy named David confronted the biggest problem in his nation with holy courage and faith-filled words.
- He recognized that there was a cause to stand up for in life.
- His actions showed us the importance of giving glory to God for previous battles while having great expectation for victory.

# This month's Bible Study is titled: The Encompassing Power of "Thank You!"

- In America, we celebrate Thanksgiving this month.
- Any day that we give God heartfelt thanks is great, but there is just something special about knowing so many people are all doing it at once.

When we are all in one mind and one accord, showing gratitude to God, it charges the spiritual atmosphere and makes receiving and making changes in our life much easier.

- No matter what country we call home, when we are praying together and focused on Him, it's like we are holding hands all across this world.
- We are closing the distance between us and flooding this world with the power of love and light, which it so desperately needs.

# \*Instruct the group to turn to Philippians 4:6.

Philippi was a leading city in Macedonia and the first town of Greece to hear the Gospel of Christ from Paul.

- The book of Philippians was written by Paul during his first imprisonment in Rome, and it is considered the most personal of Paul's letters.
- He wrote to thank his partners in the church at Philippi for their generosity toward him and to encourage them during the persecutions and difficulties they were facing.

#### \*Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:6 KJV:

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

\*Group Discussion: Now, why do you think it says "with thanksgiving" in that verse?

It is difficult to believe that anybody would tell you to say "thank you" without the intention of giving you every thing you ask for in the first place.

- Paul experienced the encompassing power of saying thank you when he prayed.
- He was led by God to communicate this timeless principle to the church of that day.
- This is what God is saying to us today.

Most of us have a habit of putting restrictions and boundaries on our prayers, but there is absolutely nothing that is impossible with God.

• We should be careful for nothing and go to God in prayer about every thing.

\*Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:6 New Living Translation:

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done."

This powerful promise reminds us that our wonderful God always wants to give us what we ask for in faith, but we must ask with thanksgiving.

• That is how faith operates. Great expectation gets great results!

\*Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:6 The Passion Translation:

"Don't be pulled in different directions or worried about a thing. Be saturated in prayer throughout each day, offering your faith-filled requests before God with overflowing gratitude. Tell him every detail of your life."

\*Group Discussion: Can you think of a detail in your life that you're worried about right now that you have not told God about?

Remember, all you've got to do is ask, be careful for nothing, let your requests be known to Him, and say *thank you*.

• It's pretty simple, so let's not complicate what God wants us to do.

Now let's look at our first point in our study this month: God's goodness surrounds us when we say "thank you"—it creates an encompassing atmosphere that we can live in everywhere we go.

- When God's goodness surrounds us, we need to say "Thank you!"
- By our actions, we can change our atmosphere and the world around us.

\*Instruct the group to turn to 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.

#### Let's look at a couple definitions of the word thanksgiving:

- A prayer expressing gratitude.
- A public acknowledgment or celebration of God's goodness.

#### Thanksgiving should spring from a grateful heart.

• It is required of all believers, regardless of circumstance.

\*Invite someone in the group to read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 The Passion Translation:

Let joy be your continual feast. Make your life a prayer. And in the midst of everything be always giving thanks, for this is God's perfect plan for you in Christ Jesus.

# It is God's perfect plan that we always give thanks in the midst of everything.

- This doesn't mean that we are thankful FOR everything.
- It shows us that when we say thank you, we create an encompassing atmosphere of God's goodness that we can live in everywhere that we go.

#### **Confess What You Expect!**

- 1. Great expectation gets great results! My faith always rises to meet the challenges of my day. I use the encompassing power of "thank you" in every thing.
- 2. I am careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving I let my requests be made known unto God.
- 3. God's goodness surrounds me when I say "thank you"—it creates an encompassing atmosphere that I can live in everywhere I go.

# The Encompassing Power of "Thank You!" 2<sup>nd</sup> Week NOVEMBER 2020 Bible Study Notes

## Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

In our Bible Study time today, we will continue learning about The Encompassing Power of "Thank You!"

#### \*Instruct the group to turn to Philippians 4:6.

We are going to look again at our foundation scripture and see what Paul wrote about the encompassing power of "thank you" to his partners in the church of that day.

• This timeless principle is what God is saying to us today.

# \*Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:6 KJV:

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

#### God wants to say yes to what you ask for in prayer.

- The Church has a hard time believing in God's will to say yes.
- But God has no problem believing His own Word—and you shouldn't have a problem believing it either.

#### In His presence, we can lay down every anxiety.

- In His presence, we can rest from what is troubling us.
- In His presence, we can take refuge from any fear whatsoever.

# You have a place of refuge and peace in God's presence, so get in His presence.

- Recognize that He is with you, He is on your side, and faith is your ticket to letting go.
- Great expectation gets great results.

In our last lesson, we learned that God's goodness surrounds us when we say "thank you" and creates an encompassing atmosphere that we can live in everywhere we go.

- Realize that when you have faith in Him, His goodness surrounds you.
- Let faith be the atmosphere you walk in every day.
- Live in it instead of worry.

Let's read our text again and remember that the Lord uses the words "every thing" for a reason.

#### \*Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:6 KJV:

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

#### That is big. Every thing means every thing!

- It means that it doesn't matter what's going on.
- Anxiety is still not God's best, even if the whole world says you should be anxious.

You may even have a good reason to worry, but God still says be careful for nothing.

\*Group Discussion: So, what is God's best way of handling every situation?

# God's best is about bringing your prayers and supplications to Him with thanksgiving.

- You see, saying *thank you* ahead of time is an act of faith.
- It's part of the process of receiving.
- So, do not forsake giving thanks.

### Let it be settled in your heart that you will not allow worry to take the place of faith.

• Decide that it's just a fact, as a believer, that you can choose your inner atmosphere.

- Determine that you will do what God says and express thanksgiving for every request you make known unto Him.
- Determine that you will not allow worry to be a part of your life.

The second point of this month's study is this: Don't be a person of little faith when you are making your requests known to our El Shaddai God.

- Remember, the name El Shaddai means "more than enough."
- In other words, God has more than enough to meet any need or desire in your heart.

\*Group Discussion: Does this inspire you to remove the all limitations when you approach your El Shaddai God in prayer?

When you ask big and with thanksgiving, you are showing Him you've got great faith.

- You're showing Him that you *know* He is the God of more than enough and that He can do *whatever* you've got the guts to believe.
- Saying *thank you* is like sealing your faith in God.

When we refuse worry, make our requests known to God in faith, and walk in thankfulness to God for our answers, we are living in the radiant atmosphere of thanksgiving.

- It's a luminous and joyful atmosphere, and it's full of great expectation.
- It's a "living" form of faith that doesn't evaporate the moment we say amen.
- No, it surrounds us, and it moves in us and with us.

When life tries to show us the opposite, faith rises up to say, "No, I already talked to God about that, and He is working it out on my behalf! Thank you, God, for bringing me what I need and desire."

\*Instruct the group to turn to John 14:13-14.

The radiant atmosphere of thanksgiving is a light-filled way of living.

- It dispels the darkness of worry, not with empty words but with living faith in El Shaddai God
- He's more than enough.
- He knows it, and when we know it too, it changes the way we speak.

# \*Invite someone in the group to read John 14:13-14 KJV:

"And whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in My name, I will do it."

We are transformed when we know that whatsoever we ask in His name, He will do.

- So, we might as well say thanks for every thing now!
- This is a good time to pause for a second and shout a BIG "THANK YOU" to our El Shaddai God!

#### **Confess What You Expect!**

- 1. God wants to say *yes* to what I ask for in prayer. In His presence, I can lay down every anxiety, I can rest from what is troubling me, and take refuge from any fear whatsoever!
- 2. I have a place of refuge and peace in God's presence. He is with me and on my side, and faith is my ticket to seeing great results.
- 3. God's goodness surrounds me. I let faith be the atmosphere that I walk in every day. I live in it instead of worry.

# The Encompassing Power of "Thank You!" 3<sup>rd</sup> Week NOVEMBER 2020 Bible Study Notes

#### Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

Since the beginning of 2020, we have been declaring the theme that the Lord gave us for the year: Great Expectation Gets Great Results!

- God knew that we needed great expectation to overcome daily challenges.
- He reveals His Word so that we can get great results in every area of our lives.

## All this month we have been studying about The Encompassing Power of "Thank You!"

- In part one, we saw that saying "thank you" surrounds us with God's goodness and creates an encompassing atmosphere that we can live in everywhere we go.
- In part two, we learned that our God has more than enough to meet any need or desire in our heart, so we should not be a person of little faith when we are making our requests known to our El Shaddai God.

#### \*Instruct the group to turn to Philippians 4:6.

We are going to read our foundation scripture again and dive into this month's Bible Study.

# \*Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:6 KJV:

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

The third point of this month's study is this: When you say "thank you" after you make your requests known to God, you are allowing the absolute power of God to take over.

• You allow Him to control the conditions and lead every part of *you* in order to bring that request to pass.

#### Now, that is powerful.

- It is powerful to yield to God in faith.
- It's powerful to give your will over to His will and to make His ways more important than your ways.

#### That is the Encompassing Power of "Thank YOU!"

\*Instruct the group to turn to Colossians 2:5-7.

Remember from last week's study that when you ask big and with thanksgiving, you are showing God you've got great faith.

• Your great expectation gets great results.

# \*Invite someone in the group to read Colossians 2:5-7 The Living Bible:

"For though I am far away from you my heart is with you, happy because you are getting along so well, happy because of your strong faith in Christ. And now just as you trusted Christ to save you, trust Him, too, for each day's problems; live in vital union with Him. Let your roots grow down into Him and draw up nourishment from Him. See that you go on growing in the Lord, and become strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught. Let your lives overflow with joy and thanksgiving for all He has done.

## The same strong faith in Christ that saved you is the same faith for each day's problems.

- As you live in vital union with Christ, your roots will grow down deep.
- You can keep on growing in the Lord and become strong and vigorous in the truth.
- You can let your life overflow with joy and thanksgiving for all that God has done.

A lot of people ask God for something, but they want to control how He gets it to them—faith doesn't do that.

• Faith is about trust and letting God do His job.

\*Group Discussion: Is there something that you have asked God for but realize that you haven't fully trusted Him to do His job?

Faith doesn't try to control the "way" God fulfills your requests.

- Faith is about lining yourself up with God's Word and believing it.
- It's about giving your control over to God and working with Him, not against Him.

Faith is about noticing and refusing to fall into the worry trap of "when/where/how" God is going to get it done.

• Faith is simply doing what God said in Philippians 4:6.

\*Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:6 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition:

"Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God."

When you allow the absolute power of God to take over, control the conditions, and lead every part of you in life, you are going to clash with Satan and all of his cohorts!

- You will encounter opposition because you are aligning yourself with God in spirit.
- And that is a threat to the work of the devil.

You see, when you have faith in God like that, you and God are working together as one.

- And that means *you* are in control too.
- That is because you are working in tandem with God, Who has absolute power.

# When God says, "Do this," do it.

- When God says, "Go here," do it.
- When He says, "Don't worry, just ask and say thanks," guess what?
- You should do it!

\*Instruct the group to turn to Ephesians 5:20:

You can live in the radiant atmosphere of thanksgiving.

• It's a luminous and joyful atmosphere, and it's full of great expectation

\*Invite someone in the group to read Ephesians 5:20 KJV:

"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The sway of worry can't compete with the power of faith.

• Life is just plain better no matter what's going on when you trust God.

You can yield to God's absolute power and become one with Him.

• You can let Him take over, control the conditions, and lead you.

# **Confess What You Expect!**

- 1. I refuse to be a person of little faith. I ask big and with thanksgiving. I *know* God is more than enough and can do *whatever* I've got the guts to believe.
- 2. I am living in the radiant atmosphere of thanksgiving. It's a luminous and joyful atmosphere, and it's full of great expectation.

# The Encompassing Power of "Thank You!" 4th Week NOVEMBER 2020 Bible Study Notes

# Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

All this month we have been studying about The Encompassing Power of "Thank You!" Families and friends throughout America are celebrating Thanksgiving this week.

• Any day that we give God heartfelt thanks is great, but there is just something special about knowing so many people are all doing it at once.

When we are all in one mind and one accord, showing gratitude to God, it charges the spiritual atmosphere and makes receiving and making changes in our life much easier.

- No matter what country we call home, when we are praying together and focused on Him, it's like we are holding hands all across this world.
- We are closing the distance between us and flooding this world with the power of love and light, which it so desperately needs.

# \*Instruct the group to turn to Philippians 4:6.

We will conclude this month's Bible Study by reading our foundation verse that was written by the apostle Paul to his partners in the church at Philippi.

- Paul experienced the encompassing power of saying thank you when he prayed.
- He was led by God to communicate this timeless principle to the church of that day.
- This is what God is saying to us today.

#### \*Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:6 KJV:

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

When you exercise your faith with thanksgiving, notice what happens in the next verse. \*Invite someone in the group to read Philippians 4:7 KJV:

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

#### That is a powerful promise that you can take to the bank!

- God's Word brings peace.
- When you let go of worry, bring your requests to God in prayer, and say *thank you* in faith knowing that it's coming, your faith takes over everything temporal and spiritual.

# Satan can't stop you from seeing your requests fulfilled by God.

- Peace follows faith, and the devil hates the peace of God.
- He works to divide and to bring misery and anxiety to the whole world.

# As believers, strife isn't part of our life.

- We live in peace from the inside out.
- When we walk by faith, the peace of God comes flooding into our hearts and minds.

# As people of faith, we know that God's Word is true.

- He hears us and our faith works.
- Whatever we ask in His name is going to be done to His glory and to our benefit!
- \*Group Discussion: Are you ready to go full force with thanksgiving and faith as you close out this year?

#### From now on, you can decide to say thank you in your prayers every single time.

- Start seeing it as just as important as saying your request.
- God will be pleased with your obedience to His Word.

# We can be thankful that so many people are responding to the Word in this "unique" year.

- People are seeing the problems of this world and realizing the evil that exists is real, and they are turning to God.
- When we speak words of faith, hope, and joy into the lives of people, they turn toward God and look for hope in today's world.
- Eyes are opening, hearts are opening, and people are being touched and changed.

# Let's be especially thankful during this time in history.

• It's wonderful to see people from all over the world being drawn to the wonderful love and light of God!

\*Group Discussion: Have you been inspired to expect the favor of God to surround you and have His blessing on you, no matter what?

We can have great expectation for our faith in God to surge higher and higher as we move toward the end of 2020.

\*Invite someone in the group to read 3 John 2 KJV:

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

#### God wants you blessed, so stay in agreement with God!

• You can pray every day that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers.

# \*Instruct the group to turn to Psalm 37:4.

You can expect to be blessed in every way—spiritually, physically, financially, and in all of your relationships too.

#### \*Invite someone in the group to read Psalm 37:4 KJV:

"Delight thyself also in the LORD: and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

# Be thankful today for so many promises in God's Word that reveal His plan for our lives.

• We can expect God to give us the desires of our heart when we delight ourselves in Him.

# Let's give thanks to our wonderful God and have a Happy Thanksgiving!

- Let's ask BIG and thank BIG!
- Let's allow faith and peace to lift us up.

# Remember that we are all family!

• With prayer and thanksgiving, we can reach around the world in faith and hold each other's hands in the spirit.

# We can see ALL of our great expectations produce great results!

#### **Confess What You Expect!**

- 1. I say "thank you" after making my requests known to God, and the absolute power of God takes over, controls the conditions, and leads every part of *me* in order to bring my request to pass.
- 2. The peace of God keeps my heart and mind through Christ Jesus, and strife isn't part of my life. I am going full force with thanksgiving and faith. I *ask* BIG and *thank* BIG!