PASTOR LAURIE IDAHOSA

Never Forget

Thank God for Your People, and Thank Him Anyway

NOV 8, 2026

Thank God for Your People, and Thank Him Anyway

NEVER FORGET: Growing a Grateful Heart

Main Scripture

Psalm 103:2 (NLT) *Let all that I am praise the LORD; may I never forget the good things he does for me.*

Main passages: Philippians 1:3-5 (NLT) and Acts 16:16-34 (NLT).

G: Give Thanks by Name

God sends people to help us. Thank God for them, and tell them what their care has meant.

Philippians 1:3-5 (NLT) *Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. [4] Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy [5] for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now.*

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NLT) *Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. [10] If one person fails, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.*

Also: Exodus 17:12 (NLT); Romans 16:3-4 (NLT).

This week: Tell one person, "I thank God for you because _____." Be specific.

I: Include the Quiet Helpers

Notice the people whose steady care is easy to overlook. Become a helper for someone else.

Genesis 40:23 (NLT) *Pharaoh's chief cup-bearer, however, forgot all about Joseph, never giving him another thought.*

Romans 12:10 (NLT) *Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.*

Also: 2 Timothy 1:16 (NLT); Hebrews 6:10 (NLT).

This week: Thank one quiet helper, and offer one manageable act of care.

F: Face It Honestly, Then Praise at Midnight

Tell God what hurts. We can turn to Him while the circumstances are still painful.

Psalm 62:8 (NLT) *O my people, trust in him at all times. Pour out your heart to him, for God is our refuge.*

Acts 16:25-26 (NLT) *Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. [26] Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of every prisoner fell off!*

Also: Psalm 42:11 (NLT); Daniel 6:10 (ESV). Full account: Acts 16:16-34 (NLT).

This week: Pray honestly in one hard moment, then name one true reason to thank Him.

T: Trust Him in It, Not for It

God is still working. Thank Him for His care without calling evil or loss good.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (ESV) *give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

Habakkuk 3:17-18 (NLT) *Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, 18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!*

Also: Romans 8:28 (NLT); Psalm 116:17 (ESV).

This week: Write, "Lord, this is what hurts: _____." Then, "Even here, thank You for _____."

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GIFT Recap

G: Give thanks by name.

I: Include the quiet helpers.

F: Face it honestly, then praise at midnight.

T: Trust Him in it, not for it. He is still working.

This Week's Homework

- Each day: "Thank You, Lord, for _____."
- Thank one person by name, and notice one quiet helper.
- Offer practical care. Ask for prayer and support when you need it.
- Tell God what hurts, and thank Him for something truly good.
- Prepare a short thank-you or Ebenezer testimony of how God helped you this year. Invite someone for November 29.

Save the Date: Special Service, November 29

Ebenezer Sunday / Living Grateful celebration at Victory Christian Fellowship.

1 Samuel 7:12 (ESV) *Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, 'Till now the LORD has helped us.'*

Practice GIFT this month so we come ready to raise our Ebenezer together on November 29. Bring a short thank-you about God's help this year, even if you are still waiting for an answer. Invite someone to come with you.

Series Calendar

- November 1: Never Forget Where He Brought You From (Joshua 4). Already preached.
- November 8: Thank God for Your People, and Thank Him Anyway (Philippians 1:3-5; Acts 16:16-34).
- November 22: Grateful at the Table (John 6). Thanksgiving Sunday.

Special Service: November 29

Ebenezer Sunday / Living Grateful celebration (1 Samuel 7:12). Short thank-yous for how God has helped us this year.

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