

RADICAL GRATITUDE

Always be **joyful**. Never stop praying. Be **thankful in all circumstances**, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. **1 Thess. 5:16-18 (NLT)**

Latin: *Radicalis* = from the root "RADICAL" MEANS <u>ROOTED</u>

...Just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to live in obedience to Him. Let your roots grow down into Him and draw up nourishment from Him... Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT)

<u>BLESSED</u> are those who **trust in the Lord** and have made the Lord their hope and confidence. They (people who trust in the Lord) are like trees planted along a riverbank with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees (people) are not bothered by the heat, or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit. Jeremiah 17:7-8 (NLT)

> The first characteristic of deep rooted radical lifestyle: <u>Radical Gratitude</u>

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The Road to a life of Radical Gratitude...

1. First, choose to <u>always</u> be joyful - be rooted in the source of true joy.

I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world. John 16:33 (NLT)

2. Perpetually talk to our Source.

Never stop praying...

3. Continually GIVE THANKS.

Be thankful...

4. Keep Him involved <u>IN</u> every moment.

Give thanks in all circumstances... It says IN not FOR

5. I must recognize I was made for this.

... for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Why is this God's will for me?

- It keeps me rooted in <u>Him.</u> It builds our relationship. It builds my <u>faith</u>.
- It brings honor to Him. Psalms 50:23
- It serves others. 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- It is a witness to unbelievers. Philippians 2:14-16

Going deeper on your own. This week carefully read Jeremiah17:7-8 and 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. Where should our source of joy and gratitude come from? How should it be exhibited? This week, chose to go 5x5. For five days intentionally thank God for what He has done in your life. Then tell 5 people, one a day, about how grateful you are to God for one thing he has done in, to, or through your life.