









GIVING THANKS

Thanksgiving, a holiday for gathering and breaking bread together. Let us be mindful to remember and pray for the less fortunate. Allow the word of God to lead and guide us as we continue to press forward!

Psalm 118:29 tells us "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever."

1 Thessalonians 5:18 Instructs us to "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

Colossians 3:17 "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in on body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Seasons In Our Lives

As I passed the fields of rich soil, some were already budding with new life. While others were waiting to receive the tiny seeds that were yet to be planted. In some ways ladies I see us as those fields I passed.

Some of us are well on our way, established with roots reaching deep into the word of God.

Others of us are excited, eagerly waiting for our dreams, callings, and aspirations to burst forth as we are being watered by Holy Spirit,

Then sadly there are those whose ground has not been tilled. Their fallow ground is in desperate need of being broken up. It lays dormant and unplowed.

The hard layer of soil for some represents the pain, hurt, disappointment and unforgiveness that has caused them to reject good thoughts our Heavenly Father is constantly sending our way.

Thoughts are but seeds for our mind. What has been your focus? Negative or Positive thoughts?

Jeremiah 29:11 lets us know our Heavenly Father has positive thoughts for us.

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not evil, to give you an expected end."

Understand the season you are in. Are you:

- Ready to receive seed from Holy Spirit.
- > Already planted, with your roots growing deep.
- > Blooming and producing fruit.
- > Ready to be harvested.
- > Experiencing a Time of Rest.
- Strive to not allow your field to become fallow ground. Soil that is dry, hard and brittle due to unforgiveness, unresolved hurts, or pain. Allow Holy Spirit to break up your fallow ground. Allow Him to water your spirit with the refreshing water of the Word.

Recognize the season you are currently in. If you are experiencing a season of growth, praise the Lord. Nurture and cultivate yourself, so that you will bring forth a good harvest. If you find that you are laying dormant, and that there is a hard shell around your

heart... it is time to break up the hard fallow ground that is surrounding your heart and mind.

 For thus saith the Lord to the men of Judah and Jerusalem: "Break up you uncultivated ground, And do not sow among thorns." Jeremiah 4:3 NKJV

Thorns represent the "cares of this world", our selfish desires can choke the good seeds the Father offers to us and in essence renders the seeds unfruitful.

- Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you. Hosea 10:12 NKJV
 This is telling us to repent, soften our hear hearts, and prepare our 'soil' to receive the seeds of righteousness for the Lord by faith.
- Read Matthew 13:7 the verses describe a "sower" or farmer that goes out to sow/plant seeds. Jesus is sowing seeds of righteousness... what type of soil are you? What type of soil do you want to be?

Walking In What You've Been Taught

As we run our race we must run with endurance, self-control, and faith! Even when we feel as if we are *Running Out Of Gas*, we must keep our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.

Understand and know that we are running to win a prize that will never fade. That prize is the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him.

2 Timothy 3:14, 15 "But you must continue in the thing which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from who you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

We have received training. Let me pause for a moment, because there may be those of you that are not sure of the training I am referring to.

There are scriptures in the word of God that touch on this very topic. I will list three for you.

- Psalm 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.
- ➤ 2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness.
- Romans 15:4 For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

So, to reiterate the title for this months Deeper Dive.

REMEMBER YOUR TRAINING.

Life can and will get hard.(in this life you shall have tribulation John 16:33). Make sure you align yourself with a body of believers that *teach* the word of God! Then as you run this race walk in the teaching of the word of God. It is Jesus who saves. Jesus who delivers. Jesus who will never leave nor forsake us!



Allow what has been planted within you to come forth!

