

Showing Appreciation in God's Kingdom

Ephesians 5:15-21

The Bible is filled with expressions & examples of thanksgiving & appreciation

Luke 17:11-19; Psalm 107:1; 1 Samuel 12:24; 1 Thess 5:13
2 Corinthians 2:14; Psalm 103: 1-5; Philippians 1:3-11

I appreciate your...

- Prayers - Ephesians 6:18
- I have felt your prayers for a very long time in my life. Over 20 years ago, I came to Flint with no experience & no clue.
- You've prayed for me & my family continually.
- I appreciate those prayers & know I'm not the only beneficiary of such a powerful spiritual tool within God's kingdom.

I appreciate your...

- **Passion** – Hebrews 10:24-25
- A lot of people involved with organized religion will tell you they feel neglected or overlooked. I don't feel neglected & never have.
- There is an excitement & zeal that surrounds Flint & we have to tell others how to be a part of that excitement.

I appreciate your...

- **Patience** – Galatians 5:23-24
- I have so many flaws & shortcomings – but you are all patient with me regardless. Ephesians 4:1-3
- I beg of you extend that patience to others, not only here at Flint, but those may not know Christ.

I appreciate you...

- Perseverance/Persistence – James 1:2-4
- I have watched so many of you overcome so much & I am stronger for it. I don't delight in your pain, but I learn from your example. Inexperienced eyes are watching & learning from you.
- I have watched you overcome tragedies, illnesses, sin, temptations, jealousy, bitterness, hurt, shame, & much more.

I appreciate your...

- **Presence** – Ephesians 5:15-17
- I'm glad that you choose to redeem some of your time and spend it on me. It might only be a handshake or hug but it's meaningful & powerful. Other Christians need your presence.
- They have gotten me through many weeks & days when the world might have won if it had not been for your presence.

I appreciate you...

- **Purpose** – Philippians 3:12-16; 3:20-4:1
- Flint is a group of Christians that want to get to heaven. You want to be in God's presence & try to take as many people with you as possible.
- Don't forget that purpose. Let it drive you everyday to live for the Lord. Hebrews 11:6 – Be diligent in your purpose.