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Kim's Kaleidoscope for Singles
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Thank You Lord!

I think sometimes we become so busy with life that we forget just how good God has been to us. We forget that it is by His grace and love that we're able to get up every morning with the activity of our limbs and the soundness of our minds. Whatever it is that we have to do on a daily basis, we should make it a practice to start out the beginning of the day with "*Thank You Lord*". These are three words that will let our Heavenly Father know just how much we understand that it is because of Him that we live, breathe, and have our being.

You know, for many of us it is only when we face our own personal adversities in life that we really begin to pay attention to our relationship with God. It is sometimes only when we want something so badly and don't get it right away that we will notice how much we've neglected that one-on-one intimacy with Him. We don't apply spiritual pressure until we're in the heat of battle. Then, and only then for many of us, do we use prayer and lots of it. This is the strategy for a whole bunch of us, but it isn't a strategy that will maintain the quality relationship the Father desires from us.

When we try to apply spiritual pressure in a situation by praying repeatedly for an outcome, sometimes something unexpected happens; instead of joy, peace, and fellowship, we begin to view words like strife, pain, and begging as a necessary part of the prayer process. We begin to pray with stress and doubt instead of thanksgiving and faith.

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

To pray rightly is to surrender doubt, insecurity, and all the other remnants that come with these heavies. All remnants of fear have to take a back seat to love, liberty, and light, because God demands that we release the anxiety and put thanksgiving in its place.

Being thankful sends the signal to God that you understand who's who in the relationship. You alone can do nothing, but you can do all things through Christ. Philippians explains that before you make a request to the Father you must first and foremost do it in the order that He has ordained. We must pray with the proper mind-and-heart-set, which is to empty our minds and hearts of worry, doubt, and anxiety. This is how we must approach His throne.

Humility before Him is a requirement. To be humbled is to recognize that God is the One who tells us how to pray effectively. We ought not to think that we can see results by going to Him any ol' way we please. God says, first dispense with the worry, secondly be specific about your request, and third wrap your prayer request in thankfulness. Not only are you to be thankful for

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the opportunity to come before the Father, but you are to be thankful that He hears your prayer and He will move on your behalf.

Ask yourself a simple question, "*Can you be worried and thankful at the same time?*" No, you cannot. Genuine thankfulness is carved out of faith. To be thankful is to acknowledge the truth that God is in control. It's saying "*No matter what this looks like, I thank you Father because I know that You are working it out!*"

Colossians 2:7 NLT

Let your roots grow down into him and draw up nourishment from him, so you will grow in faith, strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught. Let your lives overflow with thanksgiving for all he has done.

God is faithful. We can take refuge in this just like Colossians says. So no matter how things appear to be, don't give up on your desire to find a compatible mate. Don't give in to the negativity you see all around you. Keep your head up and walk with confidence. Know that you are worthy of a good and loving husband, and that God will bless you with one. Be thankful today. Shift your mindset into heaven's gear and let your life overflow with thanksgiving for all He has done for you in the past, and for what He is going to do for you in the future. ●

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