

The background of the slide features several autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and brown, scattered across a soft, out-of-focus bokeh background of light green and yellow. The leaves are the primary visual element, with some in sharp focus and others blurred.

Giving Thanks in All Things

Learning to Respond Biblically to The
Circumstances of Life

Happy Thanksgiving!

- **What are you Thankful for?**
- **This is also the Eve of Jewish Thanksgiving, The Feast of Sukkoth or Tabernacles or Booths or Ingathering. Also know as “The Feast”**
- **One of the 3 mandatory Feasts for men to attend**
 - **Passover, Weeks or Pentecost and Booths or Sukkoth**
- **Ex.23:16; Deut.16:9-12**
- **Tabernacle, Ist Temple dedication,**
- **John 1:14, Rev.21:3**

The Feast

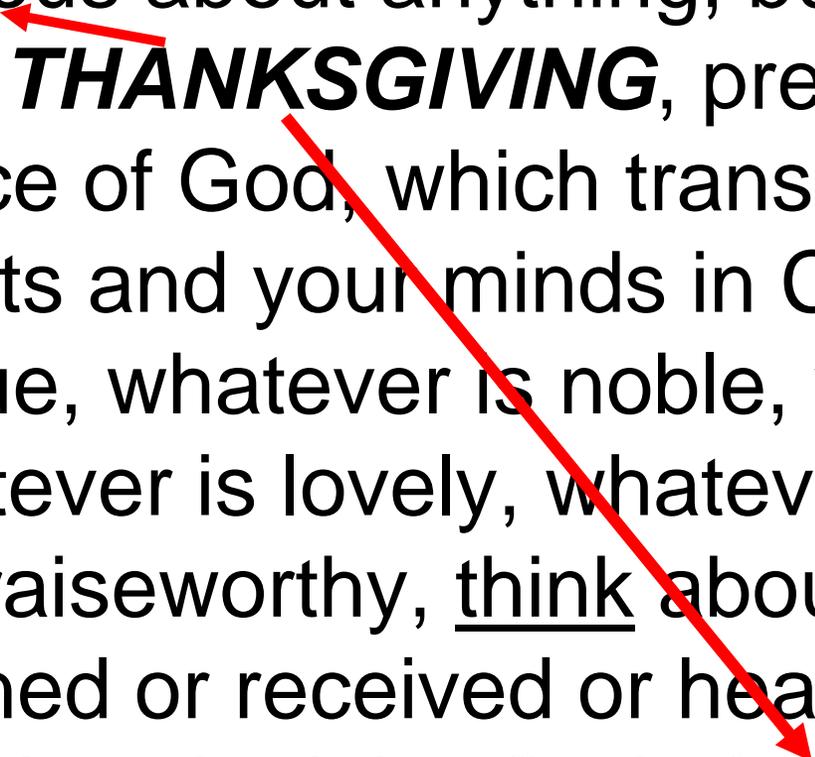
- 1. Rejoicing in what God has given.**
- 2. They were to live in booths or arbours outside for 7 days**
- 3. They were to offer sacrifices**
 - This Feast was to take place 7 weeks after the start of harvest, In the 7th month, For 7 days, All the types of sacrifices offered x by 7**
 - John 7 Jesus attends the Feast.**
 - Jesus begins teaching halfway through**
 - Pharisees try to arrest Him – v.32**
 - It is believed that as the Hallel came to a climatic conclusion, Ps.118:19-29, Jesus spoke John 7:37-38**

Jesus: Our Joy

- “On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.””
- Thanksgiving is not about the stuff, it is about “The Christ”
- God’s desire for us is that *STREAMS of Living Water* flow from within us, and he wants that to happen all the time.
- God **COMMANDS** us to be joyful.
- Being joyful is not optional, depending on our circumstances.

Rejoicing In All Things

Phil.4:4-9 - Rejoice in the Lord *always*. I will say it again: *Rejoice!* Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with **THANKSGIVING**, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me, put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.



Rejoicing In All Things

- **All of us want to live like, but, how can I rejoice when ...?**
- 1. Recognize emotions are a part of who we are. God put them there for our good.**
 - **Fight or flight, Fear, Sorrow, Joy**
- ❖ **Emotions reflect how we are viewing our circumstances at that moment.**
 - ❖ **You do not have a lot of control over your initial response to a circumstance**
 - ❖ **Then, we can make a choice. Do I allow my emotions to control me, or do I allow my Spirit led mind to apply all of God's truth to my circumstances?**

Rejoicing In All Things

2. Pursue God as your ultimate source of joy.

- Ps.37:4 – Delight yourself in the Lord ...
- Ps.118:19-29 – You are my God and I will give you thanks ...
- Ps.16:11 - ... in your presence there is fullness of joy...
- Why? It is Commanded – Scripture is clear, The Lord is near.

3. Through Prayer, leave your anxieties with the Lord. v.6,7

4. Change the way you Think. v.8,9 think positively

- Col.3:2,3 - Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.
- Garbage in, Garbage out.

Rejoicing In All Things

How do I “Be Thankful” and “Rejoice Always”?

1. Choose to Obey, Trust and Thank God.
2. Contemplate the Greatness of God.
3. Leave your burdens with the One able to do something about them.
4. Think Praise worthy.

Happiness will NOT lead to Gratitude,

But,

Gratitude will lead to Happiness