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## **Cultivate Gratitude**

Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., said, “Gratitude is the loveliest flower that grows in the garden of man’s soul; and when gratitude dies on the altar of a man’s heart, he is well nigh gone.” It doesn’t cost you anything to be grateful, and it says a lot about your character.

Say “thank you” a lot and mean it: “thank you” to the waitress when she brings tea or coffee or additional water to the table; “thank you” to your mate when he or she does something for you; “thank you” to your mom or dad or to a friend who does something for you. Never take things for granted. Accept them with gratitude.

Jesus tells of ten lepers who were cleansed, and only one turned back to say “thank you.” Evidently gratitude was important to Christ, and a simple “thank you” was expected.

Of all the great men I've known personally or read about, I've never known one who was an ingrate.

Ephesians 5:20 says, "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." And in I Thessalonians 5:18 we read, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

We're not only to thank God *for* all things but *in* all things—in every situation, no matter what comes to our lives.

The only way we can do it is to remember another "all things," found in Romans 8:28: "And we know that *all things* work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

When we understand that God has only our good in mind we will not find it difficult to thank Him for all things.

A small boy was given a piece of

cake and he immediately said, "Thank you."

"Oh," said the lady, "I like to hear little boys say thank you."

He replied: "Put some ice-cream on it and I'll say it again!"