

"I JUST WANT TO SAY THANK YOU!"



Luke 17:15-16 - One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God!" ¹⁶ He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan. (NLT)

Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines "thank you" as a polite expression of one's gratitude. I will be celebrating another birthday this month! And this event has ushered me into a spirit of true thankfulness. I remember as a little girl, my parents taught me two little "magic" words to say. Those two "magic" words were: "Please" and "Thank You". I still use them regularly and taught my children to use them and will teach my grandchildren to use them as well. As I reflect upon my life, I remember all of the things that God has done for me. I had two older brothers. And there was a 12-year gap between me and my oldest brother. Unfortunately, neither of my brothers is with me today. One died when he was 32 years old, and the other died when he was 38 years old. So needless to say, when I approached both of those milestones, I feared for my life and wondered if I would also die. But today, I can stand boldly and say, "I am still here!" I continued to think about all that God has done in, is doing even now, and will yet do in my life, and I got so excited by these two very small words which carry a whole lot of weight that I wanted to know how to say "Thank You" in other languages other than English. I thought to myself, God hears all of His people tell him "Thank You" all of the time in many different languages. And for just one minute, I wanted to hear what God hears. So I did a little research and found seven other languages to say "Thank You". Here they are:

German: Dankeschön
Japanese: Konichee Wa
French: Merci
Italian: Grazie
Russian: Spasibo (Спасибо)
Korean: Kamsamnida
Spanish: Gracias

When we look at this very familiar passage of scripture about the 10 men healed of leprosy, I noticed three significant things that they did and that we too should do as well being children of the most High God! Realizing they had a situation they could do nothing about, they: 1) "Cried Out" to God because they knew He had what they needed. Jesus instantly told them to go do something; 2) They immediately "Obeyed" God because they acknowledged Him as their Master. And because of their obedience, they were cleansed right away. But what I noticed next is that only one of them, after seeing that he was healed, came back to Jesus and 3) "Praised" God and "Thanked" God for his miraculous healing.

He then returns and enters into the presence of God. Why? Because where the spirit of the Lord is there is liberty! He had been freed from his painful and constricting disease. Once he was entered into the presence of God, he then fell prostrate before God. Why? Because the bible says in 1 Peter 5:6, "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time," Then he was uprightly positioned by the voice of God. Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you." Don't you know people of God that God can speak into your situation and you can instantaneously be healed, your finances increased, your broken relationships mended, your mind renewed, your joy restored, and your soul reclaimed? If God has ever done anything for you, you owe him a "Thank You!"

I don't know about you, but for every mountain he's brought me over; Thank You! For every valley He's brought me through; Thank You! For every crooked road He's made straight; Thank You! Father & Mother are gone; but Thank You for allowing them to be in my life as long as they were! Brothers are gone; Thank You because I now know you as a brother! For being misunderstood; Thank You! For being lied on; Thank You! For falsely being accused for your name's sake; Thank You! For my good days; Thank You. For my bad days; Thank You! In feast; Thank You and even in famine; Thank You! God, you are still good no matter what it looks like and I just want to say Thank You! Thank You! Hallelujah! Thank You!!! 'Cause you sho' been good to me!

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