

Introduction

1. Lesson text: [1 Tim. 2:1-4](#)
2. God is a Spirit and must be worshipped in spirit and in truth ([Jn. 4:24](#)).
 - a. **in spirit** refers to our attitude or heart as it relates to worship ([Ps. 9:1](#)).
 - b. **in truth** refers to being in accordance with God's Word ([Jn. 17:17](#)).
3. Every Christian is a priest which enables us to offer spiritual sacrifices to God ([1 Pt. 2:5](#)).
4. There are five acceptable sacrifices ([Ac. 2:42](#)):
 - a. **apostles' doctrine** includes teaching, preaching, and singing ([Ac. 20:7](#); [Col. 3:16](#)).
 - b. **fellowship** includes singing and giving ([Eph. 5:18-20](#); [Heb. 13:15-16](#); [Rm. 15:26](#); [2 Cor. 9:13](#)).
 - i. ([Heb. 13:16](#)) communicate (*koinonia* G2842).
 - ii. ([Rm. 15:26](#)) contribution (*koinonia* G2842).
 - iii. ([2 Cor. 9:13](#)) distribution (*koinonia* G2842).
 - c. **breaking of bread** is a reference to the Lord's Supper ([Ac. 20:7](#); cf. [1 Cor. 11:20-32](#)).
 - d. **prayers** ([1 Cor. 14:15-17](#); [1 Tim. 2:8](#); cf. [1 Tim. 3:14-15](#)).
5. Thanksgiving is essential in all five of these spiritual sacrifices.
 - a. In particular, we will examine thanksgiving in our prayers.

I. Thanksgiving and Prayer Associations

1. Thanksgiving and prayer are explicitly found together in several passages.
 - a. The Corinthians for Paul ([2 Cor. 1:11](#)).
 - b. Paul for the Ephesians, Thessalonians, Timothy, and Philemon ([Eph. 1:16](#); [1 Th. 1:2](#); [2 Tim. 1:3](#); [Phm. 4](#)).
 - c. Instruction for prayer ([1 Tim. 2:1-4](#)).
2. There are many other passages where thanksgiving is offered and prayer is implied.
 - a. Jesus for the food at the feeding of the 5,000 men ([Jn. 6:11](#)).
 - b. Jesus at the institution of the Lord's Supper ([1 Cor. 11:23-25](#)).
 - c. Paul for the food while on a ship heading for Rome ([Ac. 27:33-35](#)).
 - i. Thanksgiving for food is essential before we eat ([1 Tim. 4:3-5](#)).

- ii. Thanksgiving is essential even if we do not eat ([Rm. 14:6](#))!

II. Thanksgiving and Prayer Examples

1. Daniel.
 - a. Thankful to God for revealing Nebuchadnezzar's dream and its interpretation ([Dan. 2:17-23](#)).
 - b. It was his custom to be thankful to God in prayer ([Dan. 6:1-10](#)).
2. Jesus.
 - a. After He pronounced woes on cities where most of His mighty works were done ([Mt. 11:25-26](#)).
 - b. At the resurrection of Lazarus ([Jn. 11:41-44](#)).
3. Paul.
 - a. The Romans' faith being spoken of throughout the whole world ([Rm. 1:8](#)).
 - b. For Aquila and Priscilla ([Rm. 16:3-4](#)).
 - c. To God for the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ ([1 Cor. 15:57](#); cf. [2 Cor. 9:15](#)).

Conclusion

1. When it comes to worshipping God, thanksgiving is essential.
2. When it comes to prayer specifically, we should always include thanksgiving.