In All Things Give Thanks

1Ch 16:34 Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love [CHESED!] endures forever!

- 42 times this phrase or something similar is found in the Scripture 26x in Psalm 136
- The focus is not what we have received specifically, it is who God is (GOOD & enduring CHESED)

CHAD BIRD "If there is one Hebrew word that encapsulates who God is and how he acts toward us it's the Hebrew word chesed <code>\u03c40::</code>. This word has been translated as covenant loyalty, lovingkindness, faithful love, graciousness, mercy--all these various English words. But none of them are really adequate to translate what chesed is. Trying to compress it into one English word is like trying to catch a waterfall in a cup. It is truly untranslatable love. It's no-holds-barred mercy. It's the kind of fidelity that will be faithful to us even if it cost him the life blood of his Son. Chesed is the kind of love that chases us to the ends of the earth, and places us atop the shoulders of God, and rejoices, dances, all the way home. If there really is one English word that captures what chesed is, it is Christ himself. He is the chesed of the Father -- made flesh for us."

Give Thanks in ALL Circumstances - It is the Will of God for you

• 1 Thes 5:16-18 Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Examples - bad circumstances but they knew God is GOOD and CHESED endures forever

- **Paul and Silas in Prison** Acts 16:25 About midnight Paul and Silas were <u>praying and singing hymns</u> to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.
- Job's Response to Loss Job 1:21-22 And he said, 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; <u>blessed be the name of the Lord</u>.' In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong.
- **Daniel in the Face of the King's Decree** Daniel 6:10 When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. <u>He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously</u>.
- Jonah from the Belly of the Fish Jonah 2:9 But <u>I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you;</u> what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the Lord!

The First Thanksgiving Squanto

Proclamation of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Proclamation during one of the darkest times in our human history

One of the greatest affronts of mankind would be that somehow we forget or neglect to thank God

- Rom 1:21 ESV For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.
- Luk 17:15-18 ESV Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; 16 and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? 18 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"