

The 12 Days of Thanks Giving: Day 12



Day 12: The Presence

“And He said, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” Exodus 33:14

Presence [prez-uh ns] noun

1. the state or fact of being [present](#), as with others or in a place.
2. attendance or company
3. immediate vicinity; proximity
4. a divine or supernatural spirit felt to be [present](#) :

In the Garden of Eden man walked in the very **presence** of God. After the Fall man walked differently with God; separated from Him because of sin. After Pentecost man walked differently with God yet again. No longer God *with us*, but God *within* us. His **Presence** tabernacle-ing within man. The Hebrew word for *presence* is *paniym*, which means face, surface, presence. I have been very familiar with this Hebrew word for many years and smugly thought I knew all about it ... until I researched it for this study. I stopped in wonder when I discovered *paniym* also means, “before and behind, toward, in front of, forward, formerly, from beforetime, before, to the front of ...” Amazing.

Why can we be at rest? Why can we be at peace? Because He is with us, guiding us, protecting us, leading us, holding us in the palm of his hands. God’s **presence** is *all over us* and *all*

in us. His **Presence** brings us rest. This holiday season, when we are feeling rushed and stressed, we don't need to seek peace; we need to seek **Presence**.

More Presence

[Morning Prayer](#) a beautiful article by Jane VanOsdol

[Bring Me Back](#) an insightful poem by Logan Black

Thank you for joining us during this season of Thanks Giving. May your day be blessed!

Comment

Please leave a comment below in the **Speak Your Mind** section on what God teaches you today about **Presence**.

presence. Dictionary.com. *Collins English Dictionary – Complete & Unabridged 10th Edition*. HarperCollins Publishers. <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sacrifice> (accessed: November 15, 2014).

“Exodus 33 (New King James Version).” Blue Letter Bible. Sowing Circle. Web. 22 Nov, 2014. <<http://www.blueletterbible.org/Bible.cfm?b=Psa&c=111&p=0&rl=0&t=NKJV>>.

The 12 Days of Thanks Giving: Day 11

Day 11: Boldness



*"But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict." 1
Thessalonians 2:2*

Boldness [bohld] adjective

1. not hesitating or fearful in the face of actual or possible danger or rebuff; courageous and daring: a bold hero.
2. not hesitating to break the rules of propriety; forward; impudent:
3. necessitating courage and daring; challenging: a bold adventure.

I am often confused as to why people associate Christianity with weakness and timidity. The International Society for Human Rights estimates 7,000 to 8,000 Christians are martyred each year. It takes great **boldness** to swim against the tides of culture and be what God has created us to be – born again believers. Thankfully God did not save us then leave us to fend for ourselves in a world that is not our home. He did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power, sound mind, and love. Because of the gift of His power, we may live with great **boldness**, despising persecution and oppression. Read our focus verse for today again. What is the result of suffering?
Boldness.

This Thanksgiving, let's give thanks to God for His gift of boldness.

Boldness with Our Gifts: Dearest Father, we thank You for the blessing of boldness. Gifts are meant to be used; not relegated to a shelf to collect dust. Help us to claim Your gift as our own, and boldly use it to make disciples, edify other believers, and bring You great glory. Give us discernment to know when You're calling us to boldly leap by faith and witness for the Gospel. We pray in Jesus' Holy Name, Amen.

Boldness with our Words: Dear Lord, thank You for entrusting us with the Gospel. Help us to faithfully fulfill this amazing privilege. We do not have to worry about what to say because You have given us the words in Your Word. We may boldly proclaim the truth, sowing seeds of salvation in every relationship, situation, and experience we encounter. Help us to boldly speak and trust You for the outcome. Thank You we don't have to feel bold to be bold. Amen.

More Boldness

[Worship with Abandon](#) a blog post by Jane VanOsdol

Comment

Please leave a comment below in the **Speak Your Mind** section on what God teaches you today about **boldness**.

Bold. Dictionary.com. *Collins English Dictionary – Complete & Unabridged 10th Edition*. HarperCollins Publishers. <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sacrifice> (accessed: November 15, 2014).

“1 Thessalonians 2 (New King James Version).” Blue Letter

Bible. Sowing Circle. Web. 22 Nov, 2014.
<<http://www.blueletterbible.org/Bible.cfm?b=Psa&c=111&p=0&rl=0&t=NKJV>>.

The 12 Days of Thanks Giving: Day 10



Day 10: The Gospel

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor: He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."

Gospel [gos-puh l] noun

1. the teachings of Jesus and the apostles; the Christian revelation.
 2. the story of Christ's life and teachings, especially as contained in the first four books of the New Testament, namely Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.
 3. (usually initial capital letter) any of these four books.
 4. something regarded as true and implicitly believed:
 5. a doctrine regarded as of prime importance:
 6. glad tidings, especially concerning salvation and the kingdom of God as announced to the world by Christ.
- Many people believe the truth of the Gospel pertains to a

moment of decision; when Jesus is accepted as Savior. While the life-giving words of the **Gospel** are the key to salvation, they also unlock the plan for daily life. As Christians we have the privilege of speaking the **Gospel** into our everyday trials and tribulations and our greatest challenges and hardships. Let the truth of the **Gospel** transform your life from day one until Jesus calls you home.

Give Thanks for the Gospel

I am so thankful that the **Gospel** is our hope for eternity and for the everyday. What are some ways you can let the **Gospel** transform your daily life? Perhaps we can try one of the following suggestions this week.

1. To offer tangible help to the brokenhearted. We can be the hands and feet of Jesus by taking a meal to a grief-stricken person, offering time to listen, sending a card, or calling.
2. Pray for those caught in sin or addictions. While we cannot force people to give up drugs or alcohol, we can fervently pray that they will be convicted of their sin and see their need to be set free.
3. Volunteer our time. Many churches and ministries need help with their programs. Consider serving in a food pantry, volunteering at a pro-life clinic, teaching a Sunday school class, or working at a homeless shelter.

More Gospel

[1 Thessalonians A Life of Faith, Part 3: The Gospel](#) a Bible study by Mary Kane

[Knowing Who I am in Christ](#) an article by Joyce Meyer

Comment

Please leave a comment below in the **Speak Your Mind** section on what God teaches you today about *gospel*.

gospel. Dictionary.com. *Dictionary.com Unabridged*. Random House, Inc. <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/gospel> (accessed: November 24, 2014).

The 12 Days of Thanks Giving: Day 8



Day 8: Purpose

"But indeed for this purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth." Exodus 9:16

purpose[**pur-puh s**] noun

1. the reason for which something exists or is done, made, used, etc.
2. an intended or desired result; end; aim; goal.
3. determination; resoluteness.
4. the subject in hand; the point at issue.
5. practical result, effect, or advantage: to act to good purpose.

One of the Greek words for *purpose* is *prothesis*. At its root, *prothesis* means *to set forth to be looked at, to place in public view*. According to this definition, part of our **purpose**

in Christ is to make manifest the power of God in our life. We are to shine forth how He has redeemed, restored and shaped us into the image of Christ. We place ourselves in public view when we *purposefully* use our gifts to speak God's truth to the lost of the world. How are you using your gifts to show the world there is purpose to your life?

Give Thanks for Purpose

Purpose of Life: Dear Father, we give thanks for You have called us to live a life of *purpose*. Thank you we have a reason to get up each day and we have important work to do for Your kingdom. We also give thanks because You use all things for Your *purposes* ... good things, bad things, hard things, painful things. You even re-purpose our failings and mistakes to work for our good and Your glory. Father, You have specifically gifted us to be fruitful and effective ministers of your Word. We are Your hands and feet. Please send us and use us according to Your *purpose*. We thank you for the gift of *purpose*.

More Purpose

[One Anna, One Purpose](#) a Bible study by Mary Kane

[On Purpose](#) a short Bible study by Mary Kane

[Believer or Achiever?](#) an article by Joyce Meyer

Comment

Please leave a comment below in the **Speak Your Mind** section on what God teaches you today about *purpose*.

Previous Links

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- [Day 2: Cleansing](#)
- [Day 3: Sacrifice](#)
- [Day 4: God's Word](#)
- [Day 5: Restoration](#)
- [Day 6: Service](#)
- [Day 7: Redemption](#)

purpose. Dictionary.com. *Collins English Dictionary – Complete & Unabridged 10th Edition*. HarperCollins Publishers. <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sacrifice> (accessed: November 15, 2014)

“Exodus 9 (New King James Version).” Blue Letter Bible. Sowing Circle. Web. 22 Nov, 2014. <<http://www.blueletterbible.org/Bible.cfm?b=Psa&c=111&p=0&rl=0&t=NKJV>>.

The 12 Days of Thanks Giving: Day 3 Sacrifice



Day 3: Sacrifice

“But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God.” Hebrews 10:12

sacrifice: [sak-ruh-fahys]noun; verb

1. the surrender or destruction of something prized or desirable for the sake of something considered as having a higher or more pressing claim.
2. a surrender of something of value as a means of gaining something more desirable or of preventing some evil
3. (verb) to surrender or give up, or permit injury or disadvantage to, for the sake of something else.
4. (verb) to make a sacrifice or offering of.

Please carefully read the definitions above and highlight the sections that mean the most to you.

The first **sacrifice** for sin was accomplished by God in the Garden of Eden. The last **sacrifice** for sin was confirmed by Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. The road to the cross was paved with sacrifice. Most of the definitions above speak of the giving of One for the sake of another. God gave Jesus, His Son in **sacrifice** for us (for you , for me) not only because of our need, but because of His great love for us.

This Thanksgiving, let's give thanks to God for those who sacrificed to give us life.

For Jesus: Thank you, God, for giving Jesus as sacrifice for our sin. Because of Jesus' death on the cross, we now live an abundant life.

For caregivers: Thank you, Father, for the sacrifice of our caregivers; for their struggle to feed, clothe, love and care for us, often at the expense of their own needs and comfort.

For First Responders: Thank You for those You've set in place who sacrifice their comfort and safety to cover us with their protection and service. Give them your strength and courage to go forth in the work You have given them; the defense and care

of those in need.

For Health Care Workers: Thank you, Father, for the tireless service and ministry of health care workers, who often risk their own health for the healing of others.

For Teachers: Father in heaven, thank you for teachers who are often underpaid, and overworked. Many teachers give from their own resources to supply their classrooms, and provide food and clothing for their students. Give teachers rest and peace this Thanksgiving season.

More Sacrifice

Please click on a link for more information on **sacrifice**.

[Serving Others](#) an article by Joyce Meyer Ministries

[A Servant's Heart](#) a short Bible study by Mary Kane

[Sacrifice](#) a blog post Jane VanOsdol

Comment

Please leave a comment below in the **Speak Your Mind** section on what God teaches you today about **sacrifice**.

sacrifice. Dictionary.com. *Collins English Dictionary – Complete & Unabridged 10th Edition*. HarperCollins Publishers. <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sacrifice> (accessed: November 15, 2014).