

THANKSGIVING

Recipe for  
Thanksgiving



## One Cup of Contentment

Contentment is very rare. Neither the rich nor the poor are content. And so thanksgiving is rare as well. A contented person recognizes that God knows best. Whether God has chosen to give him much or little, it is the right amount from a wise and loving Father. Such contentment must be learned.



*Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need (Philippians 4:11, 12).*

## Ten Tablespoons of Thoughtfulness

Thinking of God's many blessings will lead to thanksgiving. So times of meditation are needed: short ones at mealtimes, longer ones on rising and retiring, and regular ones in the Lord's house. If you think, you'll thank.

*Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits (Psalm 103:2).*

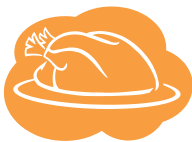
## Six Teaspoons of Self-knowledge

Only when we recognize that we have no claim to anything at all will we be grateful for whatever God gives us. Those who presume that they deserve much do not give thanks but give vent to bitterness, envy, jealousy, and greed. These consume and destroy, but thanksgiving brings joy and enrichment of character and courage for the days ahead.

*For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it? (1 Corinthians 4:7).*



## All in a New Heart



All of these ingredients are related. A thoughtful person will be contented; a contented person has faith in God's wisdom; a wise man knows both how small and how great he is. And these graces will be developed best when Jesus rules the heart, turning it from greed and envy to service and thanksgiving.

*And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful (Colossians 3:15).*

## Season With Song—Thanksgiving—Worship

Having all of the main ingredients may make the pie, but without the proper seasoning it may not be fit to eat. The spices are the smallest parts of a recipe but add the most flavor by themselves or by bringing out the best flavor of other ingredients. Add to your life the spice of joy—joy is a combination effect of properly using song, thanksgiving, and worship.

*O come, let us sing unto the LORD... Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving... For the LORD is a great God and a great King above all gods... O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker (Psalms 95:1-6).*

### Allow to Cure

A good recipe not only gives a feeling of great satisfaction and accomplishment as the efforts of the labor pays off in an enjoyable, delicious dish of food, but it also provides a source of strength, health, and life. To maintain life, a person must continue to get good food and water. So it is with spiritual life and even more so. Good spiritual life makes good physical life.

*My son, forget not my law... Let not mercy and truth forsake thee... Trust in the LORD with all thine heart... In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones (Prov. 3:1-8).*

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*This ministry maintained by the gifts of God's people.*

