



*Thanksgiving*

# 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

*<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray continually, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

# What's God's Will?

<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray continually, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



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# Macedonia and Achaia

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# Thessalonica

- Capital City of Macedonia. A commercial “hub”
- Population included Gentiles & Jews
- Dominant Religion: Paganism
- Paul, Syllas & Timothy’s missionary journey included preaching in Jewish synagogues.
- Paul fled to Berea & Athens to escape
- Many believed...but faced intense persecution

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**A Christian**

**REJOICES** in ALL circumstances.

# A Christian

Doesn't deny their circumstances, but rejoices despite their circumstances

*“We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope” — Romans 5:3-4*

*<sup>17</sup> For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. — 2 Cor. 4:17*



**A Christian**

**PRAYS** in ALL circumstances.

# A Christian

Persists in prayer and doesn't give up.

*<sup>6</sup> And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup> And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? <sup>8</sup> I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly." — Luke 18: 6-8*



# A Christian

**GIVE THANKS** in ALL circumstances.

# A Christian

Expresses thanks for who God is and what He has done.

*“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever.”— Psalm 136:1*

*“Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men.”— Psalm 107:31*

# A Christian

Is called to rejoice, pray continually and give thanks in all circumstances.

*<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray continually, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

*“for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose” — Philipians 2:13*



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