

Expressing Thanksgiving

The following are a compilation of thoughts intended to make one ponder the value of genuine thankfulness.

God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used just one to say "thank you?" ~William A. Ward

The Pilgrims made seven times more graves than huts. No Americans have been more impoverished than these who, nevertheless, set aside a day of thanksgiving. ~H.U. Westermayer

Silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone. ~G.B. Stern

If the only prayer you said in your whole life was, "thank you," that would suffice. ~Meister Eckhart

There is no such thing as gratitude unexpressed. ~Robert Brault

The only people with whom you should try to get even are those who have helped you. ~John E. Southard

If you have lived, take thankfully the past. ~John Dryden

Thanksgiving is the highest form of thought. ~G.K. Chesterton

If a fellow isn't thankful for what he's got, he isn't likely to be thankful for what he's going to get. ~Frank A. Clark

Thanksgiving isn't a little prayer you utter before receiving a meal. It's a way to live.
~Attributed to Jacqueline Winspear

If you count **all** your assets, you always show a profit. ~Robert Quillen

He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has. ~Epictetus

Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving. ~W.T. Purkiser

We can only be said to be alive in those moments when our hearts are conscious of our treasures. ~Thornton Wilder

Gratitude is a quality similar to electricity: it must be produced and discharged and used up in order to exist at all. ~William Faulkner

If you want to turn your life around, try thankfulness. ~Gerald Good

Gratitude is the least of the virtues, but ingratitude is the worst of vices. ~Thomas Fuller

There is not a more pleasing exercise of the mind than gratitude. It is accompanied with such an inward satisfaction that the duty is sufficiently rewarded by the performance.
~Joseph Addison

There is no greater difference between men than between the grateful and the ungrateful. ~R.H. Blyth

Who does not thank for little will not thank for much. ~Estonian Proverb

The hardest arithmetic to master is that which enables us to count our blessings. ~Eric Hoffer,

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. ~John Fitzgerald Kennedy

We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude. ~Cynthia Ozick

Only a stomach that rarely feels hungry scorns common things. ~Horace

Most human beings have an almost infinite capacity for taking things for granted. ~Aldous Huxley

When eating bamboo sprouts, remember the man who planted them. ~Chinese Proverb

Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it. ~William Arthur Ward

Hem your blessings with thankfulness so they don't unravel. ~Author Unknown

Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has many—not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some. ~Charles Dickens

Thanksgiving is a word of action.~W.J. Cameron

God has two dwellings; one in heaven, and the other in a meek and thankful heart. ~Izaak Walton

On Thanksgiving Day we acknowledge our dependence. ~William Jennings Bryan

I praise God because he not only guides my directions but overrules my mistakes. ~H. Norman Pell

A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all the other virtues. ~Cicero

Thanksgiving is the enemy of discontent and dissatisfaction. ~Harry A. Ironside

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Blessings are oftentimes not valued till they are gone. ~Thomas Fuller

Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates hope for tomorrow. ~ Melody Beattie

It is impossible to be negative while we are giving thanks. ~Donald Curtis

None is more impoverished than the one who has no gratitude. Gratitude is a currency that we can mint for ourselves, and spend without fear of bankruptcy. ~Fred De Witt Van Amburgh

Let us remember that, as much has been given us, much will be expected from us, and that true homage comes from the heart as well as from the lips, and shows itself in deeds. ~Theodore Roosevelt

To speak gratitude is courteous and pleasant, to enact gratitude is generous and noble, but to live gratitude is to touch Heaven. ~Johannes A. Gaertner

We can always find something to be thankful for, and there may be reasons why we ought to be thankful for even those dispensations which appear dark and frowning. ~Albert Barnes

Gratitude is the sign of noble souls. ~Aesop

Nothing is more honorable than a grateful heart. – Seneca

“Our harvest being gotten in, our Governor sent four men on fowling so that we might, after a special manner, rejoice together after we had gathered the fruit of our labors. They four in one day killed as much fowl as... served the company almost a week... Many of the Indians came amongst us and... their greatest King, Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted; and they went out and killed five deer, which they brought... And although it be not always so plentiful as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God we are...far from want.” ~ Edward Winslow, Plymouth, Massachusetts, December, 1621 Christian, Pilgrim

O Lord, that lends me life, lend me a heart replete with thankfulness. ~ William Shakespeare

The Pilgrims came to America not to accumulate riches but to worship God, and the greatest wealth they left unborn generations was their heroic example of sacrifice that their souls might be free. ~ Harry Moyle Tippet

Pride slays thanksgiving, but an humble mind is the soil out of which thanksgiving naturally grow, A proud man is seldom a grateful man, for he never thinks he gets as much as he deserves. ~ Henry Ward Beecher

Measured by the standards of men of their time, [the Pilgrims] were the humble of the earth. Measured by later accomplishments, they were the mighty. In appearance weak and persecuted they came – rejected, despised – an insignificant band; in reality strong

and independent, a mighty host of whom the world was not worthy destined to free mankind. ~ Calvin Coolidge

Every virtue divorced from thankfulness is maimed ~ Henry Ward Beecher

No people on earth have more cause to be thankful than ours, and this is said reverently, in no spirit of boastfulness in our own strength, but with the gratitude to the Giver of good who has blessed us. ~ Theodore Roosevelt