

the Venues

Go Deep

Thanks Tank

“Thanks for Everything?”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

November 22, 2015

What is your favorite Thanksgiving tradition?

What are you the most excited about when it comes to the holiday?

After reading the text, what stands out?

1. It's all-inclusive.

Do you notice all of the “all” words?

What do you think of Paul's use of these words?

Does that seem unreasonable? Unrealistic?

What is Paul trying to get across?

The grammar Paul uses makes these statements “commands.”

What's the difference between a “command” and a “recommendation”?

2. It's a packaged deal.

How are these “commands” related?

“Never repay evil for evil” - How do you apply that to your life? To the world?

“Rejoice always” - See Philippians 4:4 How does being a Cubs fan help us to understand this command?

“Pray without ceasing” – How does being online, or being on your cell phone, help us explain this command? What does it mean to be “mindful” of God?

“Give thanks in all circumstances” How can you in reality give thanks in all things?

3. It's what we do.

Take note of the phrase “in Christ Jesus.”

What do people “in Christ” do differently than other people? Or, what are we supposed to do differently than other people?

How does Romans 8:28 help us to obey this “Give thanks” command?

What is your take-away?

Which command really requires God's power in you to obey?