



How does God command GRATEFULNESS?

1 *Be grateful to God.*

*“I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with **thanksgiving**” (Psalm 69:30).*

2 *Be grateful to your parents.*

*“**Honor** thy father and mother . . .” (Ephesians 6:2–3). “For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, **unthankful**, unholy” (II Timothy 3:2).*

3 *Be grateful for your conscience.*

“I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience . . .” (II Timothy 1:3).

4 *Be grateful to your church elders.*

*“Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of **double honor**, especially they who labor in the word and doctrine” (I Timothy 5:17).*

5 *Be grateful to your civil authorities.*

*“**Honor** all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. **Honor the king**” (I Peter 2:17).*

6 *Be grateful to your employer.*

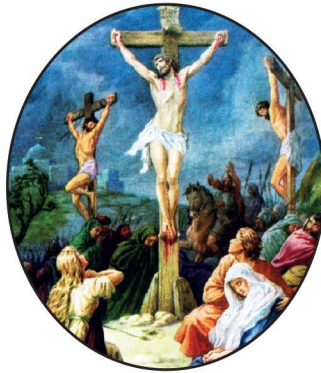
*“Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all **honor**, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed” (I Timothy 6:1).*

How did Jesus demonstrate GRATEFULNESS?



1 He thanked God.

Jesus expressed gratefulness to God for answering His prayer. “. . . *Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me*” (John 11:41).



2 He thanked His parents.

Jesus emphasized the importance of caring for parents (see Mark 7:10–13) and cared for His own mother at the cross (see John 19:26–27).



3 He honored His conscience.

He was able to receive the gratefulness of Mary, Levi, Nicodemus, and other repentant sinners because of a good conscience. (See Luke 7:36–50.)



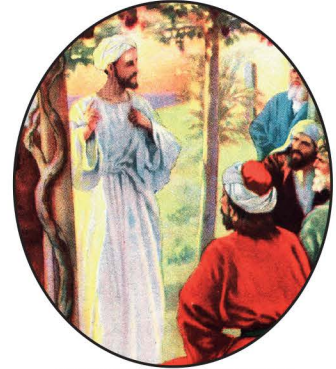
4 He honored His elders.

Jesus directed the gratefulness (as well as the customary offering) of one He had cleansed to the priest. (See Mark 1:40–44.)



5 He honored His rulers.

Jesus encouraged gratefulness toward rulers by instructing His disciples to pay taxes and to go “the second mile.” (See Matthew 17:24–27.)



6 He honored employers.

Through the parable of the hired laborers, Jesus taught employees to be grateful for the generosity of employers. (See Matthew 20:1–16.)

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“In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth . . . for so it seemed good in thy sight” (Luke 10:21).