



## WORDS FROM *Pastor Randy*

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The rush hour traffic was even crazier than usual. The sidewalks were crowded with people on the run, scampering to get wherever they were going. But there was one man who was singing! He sat alone and unassisted in his wheelchair. He had no legs and was pushing himself along with his arms.

A pedestrian noticed and said to him, "A singing man in a wheelchair gives everyone who hears him a lift." Smiling the crippled man said, "When I stopped looking at **what I had lost**, and began looking at **what I had left**, I could sing again."

Have you ever lost your song? Has your note of joy ever soured because of some unfortunate something in life? David prayed in Psalm 51, "*Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation.*"

The Bible says, "*In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you*" (1 Thess. 5:18). Paul wrote to the Ephesians, "*Giving thanks always for all things unto God.*"

There really is always something to be thankful for. Even when all you can think of to be thankful for is that's it's not always like this! You can be thankful.

For all the good things we have and for all the bad things that we don't have. It's just a matter of perspective. Perhaps, we don't have all that we want. On the other hand, we didn't get what we really deserved!

I recently read about a group of researchers who calculated that 100 years ago the average American had 72 "wants" and only 16 of them were actually "necessities." At the time of the research (1985), the average American had around 500 "wants" and only 100 of them were "needs." Can you imagine what those numbers would be like today? We're always wanting what we don't have and enjoying less what we already do have.

Blessings! They are everywhere. Learn to find them and start to count them.

One ole town grunch was grumbling during the Thanksgiving Season. "Don't you have anything to be thankful for?" asked a friend. "Nope," was his reply.

"Have you considered thanking God for turning your nose right side up?" It caught the ole grumbler's attention. "Had God turned your nose upside down, when it rained you would drowned, and when you sneezed you would have blown your thankless head right off your shoulders!"

Let's try a little harder to be thankful people. Try to notice them on purpose. God has packaged His blessings with the gift of this day. Enjoy them and then fill your heart with gratitude to the One who made them all possible.

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