

How God Grows Us Up in Christ

EVERYTHING

“IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS”

“GIVING THANKS TO GOD THE FATHER THROUGH HIM”



EVERYTHING WE DO

EVERYTHING WE SAY

CULTIVATING OUR NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

CULTIVATE ...

TO PREPARE THE LAND FOR CROPS OR GARDENING; TO FOSTER THE GROWTH OF; TO BREAK UP THE SURFACE SOIL AROUND (PLANTS) IN ORDER TO DESTROY WEEDS, PREVENT CRUSTING, AND PRESERVE MOISTURE; TO MAKE LAND SUITABLE FOR GROWING CROPS OR PLANTS.

AND WHATEVER YOU DO, IN WORD OR DEED,
DO EVERYTHING IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS,
GIVING THANKS TO GOD THE FATHER THROUGH HIM.
(COLOSSIANS 3:17 ESV)

Question #1: WHAT does that mean?

- (Colossians 3:17 ESV) And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

It means that in every area of our lives, in everything we do—every word and every action—must be brought in submission to and in agreement with the nature and character of the Lord Jesus while giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Does God have the right to demand everything?

- (Isaiah 42:5 ESV) Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it.
- (Psalm 145:15–16 ESV) The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. 16 You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.
- (Acts 4:24 ESV) And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them.”
- (Acts 17:24–25, 28a ESV) The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, 25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ... 28a for “In him we live and move and have our being.”

1. It means that in every area of our lives, that everything we do—every word and every action—must be brought in submission to and in agreement with the name of the Lord Jesus.
 - (Psalm 19:12–14 ESV) Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults. 13 Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.
 - (2 Corinthians 10:5 ESV) We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.

The name of the Lord Jesus speaks of his nature and character. So what do we know about the nature and character of the Lord Jesus? What is he like?

The nature and character of the Lord Jesus ...

He is faithful and true, authoritative, priestly, merciful, compassionate, loving, kind, humble, truthful, passionate, prayerful, wise, virtuous, obedient, patient, forgiving, giving, peaceful, judges sin, hates evil, hopeful, strong, brave, foundational—a Rock, life, truth, righteous, holy, mighty, almighty, victorious, sacrificial ...

2. It means that we honor him as Lord in and with everything in our lives.
 - (1 Peter 3:15 ESV) **But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy**, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.
 - (1 Timothy 6:15 ESV) Which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, **the King of kings and Lord of lords.**
 - (Revelation 17:14 ESV) They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, **for he is Lord of lords and King of kings**, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.
 - (Revelation 19:16 ESV) On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, **King of**

kings and Lord of lords.

- (Philippians 2:9–11 ESV) Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so **that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 **and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father.
3. It means that in every area of our lives, in everything we do—every word and every action—we give thanks to God the Father through him.

Question #2: WHAT does it matter?

1. Bringing everything before the Lord Jesus in this way matters because now the Holy Spirit has the opportunity to cultivate the good soil in our hearts and minds so that we may more fully hear and understand the words of God and bear fruit and yield a harvest for God.
 - (Ezekiel 17:8 ESV) It had been **planted on good soil by abundant waters**, that it might produce branches and bear fruit and become a noble vine.
 - (Matthew 13:23 ESV) **As for what was sown on good soil**, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed **bears fruit and yields**, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”
2. Bringing everything before the Lord Jesus in this way matters because now the Holy Spirit has the opportunity to break up the places in our hearts where the soil has been hardened by ignorance, rebellion and unbelief.
 - (Hebrews 12:5–6, 11 ESV) And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. 6 For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” ... For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, **but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness** to those who have been trained by it.
3. Bringing everything before the Lord Jesus in this way matters because now that the Holy Spirit has

broken up the hard soil, God can align our words and actions with the nature and character of Christ and we will grow and thrive in our new life in Christ as never before.

- (John 10:9–10 ESV) I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. **I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.**
- 4. Living in submission to the Lord Jesus and in agreement with the truth of God, we enjoy the reality and victory of kingdom living here and now in our new life in Christ.
 - (1 John 5:4 ESV) For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. **And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.**
 - (1 John 4:17–18 ESV) By this is love perfected with us, **so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment**, because as he is so also are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but **perfect love casts out fear**. For fear has to do with punishment, and **whoever fears has not been perfected in love.**
 - (John 17:3 ESV) **And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.**
 - (1 Corinthians 15:57 ESV) But thanks be to God, **who gives us the victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (1 John 5:13 ESV) I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, **that you may know that you have eternal life.**





Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.
(1 Chronicles 29:11 ESV)



Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
(Psalm 29:1 ESV)

Know therefore today, and lay it to your heart, that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other.
(Deuteronomy 4:39 ESV)

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!
(Psalm 150:6 ESV)

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.
(Psalm 8:1 ESV)



Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it.
(Deuteronomy 10:14 ESV)

EVERYTHING WE DO

EVERYTHING WE SAY

ARE WE READY FOR THE LORD TO DO SOME SPADE WORK IN OUR LIVES?
