

Entitletude is the attitude of entitlement.

Entitlement is when a privilege becomes the expectation.

SERIES BIG IDEA:

When privileges become expectations, I won't experience the joy and <u>blessings</u> of life.

⁷ "Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'?⁸ Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'?⁹ Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do?¹⁰ So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.' " Luke 17:7-10 (NIV)

- It is not that God doesn't reward those who are <u>faithful</u> to Him. It is that we should not do things with the <u>expectation</u> of a reward or even a "thank you."
- It is through God's grace alone that we are saved, and our response in everything should be gratitude.
- Entitletude says, "I deserve something in return."
- Gratitude says, "I'm grateful because all I have and all I am comes from God."

We are unworthy, yet God has forever forgiven us, and He has called us into His kingdom family and into His kingdom service.

Our response to God is <u>always gratitude</u>.

¹¹ Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance ¹³ and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

¹⁴ When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.

¹⁵ One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶ He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷ Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸ Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?"
¹⁹ Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."
Luke 17:11-19 (NIV)

Unexpressed gratitude is entitletude.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

I am not entitled to anything, so I will be grateful to God for everything.

- Being grateful is different than expressing my gratitude by giving thanks.
- Saying, "Thank you," acknowledges God's grace in every circumstance.

Tell God, "Thank you."

Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Matthew 14:19 (NIV)

Tell others, "Thank you," and/or "I thank God for you."



Expressed gratitude says, "I don't take your grace for granted."

¹⁶...Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)

...always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 5:20 (NIV)

NOTES:



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

Have you ever received an unexpected thank you? How did that make you feel?

Have you ever received something you felt you deserved and neglected to thank others?

We can fall into the entitletude trap by not expressing our gratitude for the unmerited grace of God through the actions of others.

We believe that every good and perfect gift comes from God and that we have done nothing to earn or merit the grace He has given us.

Because we are not entitled to anything, because nothing is ours to begin with, we must be grateful for everything God has done and can express our gratitude to God through our expression of gratitude toward others.

WAYS TO GIVE:

Westside Leavenworth App (*in your app store*) westsideleavenworth.com/**give** text "WestsideLV" to (833) 254-5174



TALK-IT-OVER:

What areas of your life do you find yourself falling into the trap of entitlement? Why do you feel you fall into that trap?

What makes expressing gratitude so difficult?

What is one thing you need to thank God for that you haven't already? Who is someone you need to thank for something they have done for you?

What is one next step you can take today?

Who do I need to tell about this?

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING:

Day 1: John 8:42; 13:3; 1:1-5 Day 2: Psalm 62:1-8 Day 3: 2 Corinthians 3:1-6 Day 4: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 Day 5: Exodus 16:1-18 Day 6: Hebrews 13:5, 20-21