

Sermon Notes | 2nd November 2025 | The Well Community Church – Indian Service
Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Welcome to The Well Community Church – Indian Service.

Key Verse — 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."



1) THE CALL TO THANKFULNESS IN TESTING

Gratitude is easy when the table is full and the harvest is good. Anybody can shout "Thank You, Lord!" when the prayer is answered, when the bills are paid, when the house is peaceful. But real thanksgiving is born in the valley. It's the praise that rises from pain, Paul said, "Give thanks in all circumstances." That word in is powerful. It doesn't say for all things; it says in all things. You may not thank God for the sickness, for the betrayal, for the loss, but you can thank Him in it, because even there He is working. Anyone can be thankful in comfort, but heaven's kind of thanksgiving is born in conflict. Paul's command, "*Give thanks in all circumstances,*" is not positive thinking; it is revelation. That single word holds a secret: I can stand in the middle of the storm and still give thanks because the same Lord who permits the storm also stands with me inside it. Job's life begins with abundance flocks, fields, family, and favor but behind that blessing lies a larger story. The Lord Himself describes Job as blameless, upright, fearing God, and turning away from evil. Heaven's testimony about Job provokes hell's accusation. Satan argues that Job's faith is bought with favor: "*Remove the hedge, and he will curse You.*"

The Lord answers not in anger but in confidence: *"Very well, everything he has is in your hand, but do not touch his life."* The test is granted but limited; pain is permitted but measured. Boundaries are drawn by grace before the enemy ever moves.

Then the reports arrive. Four disasters strike like hammer blows—livestock stolen, servants killed, fire from heaven, and a storm collapsing the house on Job's children. Each messenger finishes before the next begins, an avalanche of loss. Yet when the dust settles, Scripture records something astonishing: *"Then Job arose and worshiped."* He tore his robe—grief is real. He shaved his head mourning is real. But he fell to the ground and worshiped faith is alive. He said, *"The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."*

Those words were not born of human willpower but were sustained by divine grace. The Lord who allowed the blow upheld His servant. In that moment, Jesus the eternal Word through whom all things exist was silently strengthening Job's spirit. Gratitude did not rise from Job's strength; it rose from God's support. The same God who measured the stars was measuring Job's faith, ensuring that not one tear would fall without purpose. Beloved, the silence of heaven is not absence it is activity beyond sight. God is never closer than when He seems quietest. Gratitude in trial is not pretending that hurt is easy; it is proclaiming that God is greater than the hurt. Every time you whisper, *"Blessed be the name of the Lord,"* in the dark, you echo Job's confession and prove that grace still works.

2) THE GRACE THAT GUARDS IN THE MIDDLE OF PAIN

The enemy returns, frustrated by Job's endurance. He says, *"Skin for skin—strike his body, and he will curse You."* Again the Lord allows the test but within limits: *"He is in your hand, but spare his life."* The leash remains in God's grip. Satan strikes boils cover Job from head to foot. The strongest man in the East now sits on an ash heap with a broken shard for relief. The world calls it tragedy, but heaven calls it testimony in progress.

The attack deepens when Job's wife, grieving and exhausted, cries out, *"Curse God and die."* Pain has a voice, and sometimes it speaks through people who love us most. Yet grace speaks louder: *"Shall we receive good from God, and shall we not receive adversity?"* Those words are not cold theology; they are burning worship. The same Spirit who gives a song in the night gave Job composure in agony. *"In all this Job did not sin with his lips."* Sometimes God's greatest miracle is not removing pain but restraining complaint.

Weeks pass. Three friends arrive. They sit beside him seven days in silence a moment of compassion that quickly turns into accusation. Their logic is simple: suffering must mean sin. Job, stripped of everything, must now defend his integrity. His mind swirls; his soul trembles. Yet through every argument one conviction remains: God is still righteous. There comes a day when Job cries, *"Oh, that I knew where I might find Him!"* Heaven seems sealed, but faith keeps calling upward. That cry itself is proof that grace still guards him. When you are too weak to lift your hands, the Lord holds them up unseen. When you have no words left but a groan, the Spirit intercedes with groanings deeper still. Job's lament becomes his lifeline; his questions become conversation; his anguish becomes altar.

Then revelation breaks through the rubble: *"For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at the last upon the earth."* These are not words of wishful thinking but prophetic sight. The Lord Himself planted that truth in Job's heart. The Redeemer Job perceived is the same Lord who was sustaining him all along. He had not seen Christ in the flesh, but Christ's grace had never left him.

The beauty of divine testing is this: God never wastes pain. He tests to reveal, He wounds to heal, and He strips to strengthen. Every trial becomes the womb of greater revelation. Job's gratitude now rests not on possessions or people but on the presence of the living Lord. Faith has been refined, thanksgiving has matured, and grace has guarded him through it all.

3) THE HAND OF THE LORD BRINGING REVELATION AND VICTORY

At last the Lord speaks. After thirty-seven chapters of silence, thunder answers ashes: *"Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?"* God does not humiliate Job; He heals Job's perspective. The Almighty takes His servant on a tour of creation the foundations of the earth, the boundaries of the sea, the constellations, the lions, the eagles. Every question carries comfort: *"Job, if I care for the smallest sparrow, will I forget you?"* Each revelation enlarges faith until Job sees that sovereignty and goodness have never been apart.

Notice the tenderness hidden in the thunder. The same Lord who once said *"Let there be light"* now says, *"Look at the light."* Revelation always comes before restoration. Job's repentance is not for hidden sin but for limited sight: *"I had heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eyes see You."* Vision replaces theory. Gratitude rises anew because it now rests on revelation.

When Job prays for his friends the very ones who misjudged him the floodgates of mercy open. *"And the Lord restored the fortunes of Job when he prayed for his friends."* Forgiveness becomes the key that unlocks freedom. Grace that had guarded him now flows through him. Intercession becomes the bridge between suffering and restoration. Then Scripture records, *"The Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning."* Double flocks, double herds, new sons and daughters, long years of peace. But do not reduce this to numbers; it is about nearness. The Lord did not simply replace what was lost; He revealed Himself more deeply through what was lost. The true restoration was relationship the worshiper now knows the heart of the One he worships.

See the fingerprints of the Lord Jesus throughout this victory. It was He who permitted the test to refine faith, He who silently interceded while Job groaned, He who spoke out of the storm to realign vision, and He who turned the captivity when Job prayed. From beginning to end, grace authored, sustained, and completed the story. Job's triumph is God's testimony that His grace is sufficient, His governance perfect, and His goodness unstoppable.

And the same Lord who wrote Job's ending is writing yours. You may be in chapter two now ashes, confusion, misunderstanding but there is a chapter forty-two waiting, authored by the same faithful God. The One who tested will sustain; the One who wounded will heal; the One who seemed silent will speak in power. Gratitude is how you wait for that chapter thanking Him not because the pain is gone but because the promise is sure.

4) THE LESSONS FOR US — GRACE TO GIVE THANKS IN EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE

Lesson 1 — Every test is measured by mercy.

The Lord never allows random suffering. Just as He drew boundaries for Job, He draws them for you. No temptation overtakes you except what is common to man, and He has already made a way of escape. When storms rise, remember there is divine order behind the chaos—grace sets the limits.

Lesson 2 — Thanksgiving is sustained by presence, not circumstances.

Job could say, *"Blessed be the Lord,"* because the Lord was near. So it is with you. Christ in you is the hope of glory. When you run out of strength, His Spirit within whispers praise your mouth cannot form. Gratitude is evidence that God's presence has taken residence in your heart.

Lesson 3 — Intercession unlocks restoration.

Job's story turned when he prayed for others. Gratitude always looks outward. When

you begin to thank God for others, even those who hurt you, you align yourself with heaven's flow. The Lord who turned Job's captivity still turns ours when we choose forgiveness over resentment.

Lesson 4 — Revelation produces rejoicing.

After seeing the Lord, Job no longer demanded explanations. Some questions will never be answered this side of eternity, but the revelation of who God is satisfies what reason cannot. Thanksgiving grows as vision expands.

Lesson 5 — Grace writes better endings.

The Lord blessed Job's latter days more than the beginning, not to erase the past but to show that mercy triumphs over misery. Whatever ashes you sit in today are not the end. The Author of Job's story holds the pen over yours. Stay faithful, and grace will turn your page.

So how do we live this truth?

When darkness falls, declare, *"The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be His name."*

When friends misunderstand, declare, *"I know my Redeemer lives."*

When prayers seem unanswered, declare, *"Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him."*

When restoration comes, declare, *"The Lord has done great things for me, and I am glad."*

Gratitude in every circumstance is not personality; it is partnership with the purposes of God. It says, *"Lord, I may not understand the reason, but I trust Your revelation. You are good in the giving, You are good in the taking, and You are glorious in the turning."*

Let this be the anthem of your soul:

"The Lord tested me to teach me, sustained me to keep me, showed me grace to change me, and gave me victory to glorify His name."

So stand in your ashes and lift your worship. The same Lord who lifted Job will lift you.

The same grace that guarded him will guard you. The same mercy that restored him will restore you.

The Lord gave, the Lord has taken away blessed be the name of the Lord.

Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Amen.

