



**DEVOTION:** December 20, 2020

---

*The Antidote to Ingratitude*  
Travis Ingle

We are by our very nature self-centered, and the world around us can fuel our selfish behavior. With our selfies filling up news feeds and our opinions slathered in comment sections, we can behave just like spoiled rotten brats. Honestly, we struggle with the sin of ingratitude.

Paul gives us the antidote to self-centeredness and ingratitude as followers of Jesus. Paul instructs us to rejoice always, which is resting in the fact that our heavenly Father is working all things for good. Amid trials and temptations, poverty and affliction, and even in abundance and pleasure, we are to rejoice. He then urges us not to neglect time in prayer with the Father, which allows our heart to beat in sync with His ("on earth as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:10). He further commands us to develop an attitude of gratitude. Giving thanks in everything isn't politely saying thanks, but having a heart focused on God and His grace. His will for us is a heart marked with gratitude rather than scarred by the sin of ingratitude.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NKJV



*52 Sundays is produced in partnership with the SBC Executive Committee; International Mission Board, SBC; North American Mission Board, SBC; Woman's Missionary Union, SBC; and the 42 Baptist state conventions.*



*Coordinates with  
Resources: 12C*