

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Getting Thankful
1 Thessalonians 5:18
Week 1 of 2

German pastor Martin Rinkart served in the walled town of Eilenburg during the horrors of the Thirty Years War of 1618-1648. Eilenburg became an overcrowded refuge for the surrounding area. The fugitives suffered from epidemic and famine. At the beginning of 1637, the year of the Great Pestilence, there were four ministers in Eilenburg. But one abandoned his post for healthier areas and could not be persuaded to return. Pastor Rinkhart officiated at the funerals of the other two. As the only pastor left, he often conducted funerals for as many as 40 to 50 persons a day—some 4,480 in all. In May of that year, his own wife died. By the end of the year, the refugees had to be buried in trenches without services.

Yet living in a world dominated by death, Pastor Rinkart wrote the following prayer for his children to offer to the Lord:

*Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices;
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom this world rejoices.
Who, from our mother's arms,
Hath led us on our way,
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.*

[Harry Genet, *The Unlikely Thanker*, Men of Integrity (3-3-00)]



northeast daily reading

November 20 -21, 2010

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Getting Thankful
1 Thessalonians 5:18
Week 1 of 2

German pastor Martin Rinkart served in the walled town of Eilenburg during the horrors of the Thirty Years War of 1618-1648. Eilenburg became an overcrowded refuge for the surrounding area. The fugitives suffered from epidemic and famine. At the beginning of 1637, the year of the Great Pestilence, there were four ministers in Eilenburg. But one abandoned his post for healthier areas and could not be persuaded to return. Pastor Rinkhart officiated at the funerals of the other two. As the only pastor left, he often conducted funerals for as many as 40 to 50 persons a day—some 4,480 in all. In May of that year, his own wife died. By the end of the year, the refugees had to be buried in trenches without services.

Yet living in a world dominated by death, Pastor Rinkart wrote the following prayer for his children to offer to the Lord:

*Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices;
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom this world rejoices.
Who, from our mother's arms,
Hath led us on our way,
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.*

[Harry Genet, *The Unlikely Thanker*, Men of Integrity (3-3-00)]



northeast daily reading

November 20 -21, 2010



IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Getting Thankful

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Week 1 of 2

This week's daily Bible reading will consist of scripture that teaches us about being thankful.

- DAY ONE – Psalm 103
- DAY TWO – Psalm 136
- DAY THREE – Luke 2:25-32
- DAY FOUR – Colossians 3:15-17
- DAY FIVE – Revelation 11:15-19

Memory Verse:

“Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men.” (Psalm 107:8)



IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Getting Thankful

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Week 1 of 2

This week's daily Bible reading will consist of scripture that teaches us about being thankful.

- DAY ONE – Psalm 103
- DAY TWO – Psalm 136
- DAY THREE – Luke 2:25-32
- DAY FOUR – Colossians 3:15-17
- DAY FIVE – Revelation 11:15-19

Memory Verse:

“Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men.” (Psalm 107:8)