

Improving Your Vision

For most of us, the annual Thanksgiving celebration in November is always a joyous time as we gather with family and friends, expressing our gratitude for our blessings – and eating!

Acknowledgment of God's favor and protection, however, should be a daily occurrence, and it has as much to do with expression through attitude and lifestyle as it does through the spoken word in prayer to our Lord or in verbalization to family and friends.

Did you know that the English word *thanks* comes from the same root word as *think*? And they not only share a similar background, they are connected in another way. It seems the more we think, the more we thank.

I read recently about one woman who illustrated how thinking and thanking are related in a visit to the eye doctor. The story had particular appeal to me since my wife, Lola, had seven surgeries because of eye problems, including a detached retina, last year (and I'm grateful that she has had full recovery!).

In the story, the woman complained to her ophthalmologist that, as she grew older, her eyesight was getting worse. He examined her eyes and could not be encouraging about the future of her eyesight. But to his surprise, she did not seem to be upset.

She told him all she was grateful for: her deceased husband and the quality of their lives together; her children and their families; her friends; the many years she has enjoyed upon this earth; her vast library of memories.



She had done a great deal of thinking about these things. "My eyesight is getting worse," she summarized, "but I'm not going to fret over that."

Her doctor later made this observation: "Her eyesight is poor, but her vision is better than most people's."

Indeed, she clearly saw what many never see – all the good in her life. And she was content.

When we take time to think, and make time to thank, we see more clearly.

It's a good way to improve your vision.

Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 5:20 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter