

## Introduction

1. Thanksgiving is essential in all five spiritual sacrifices when we worship God.
  - a. Those five spiritual sacrifices are teaching/preaching, singing, giving, the Lord's Supper, and prayers ([Ac. 2:42](#)).
2. We express our thanksgiving to God and for others verbally through prayer.
3. We express our thanksgiving to God through our giving.
4. We express our thanksgiving for the great sacrifice of Jesus during the Lord's Supper.

## I. Preaching and Teaching Are Essential

1. The church in prophesy ([Isa. 2:1-4](#); cf. [Mic. 4:1-8](#)).
  - a. Teaching is an essential part of the church ([Isa. 2:3](#); cf. [Mic. 4:2](#)).
  - b. Faith is produced by hearing the Word of God ([Rm. 10:17](#)).
2. Teaching is necessary if we wish to be saved ([Jn. 6:44-45](#) citing [Isa. 54:13](#); cf. [Jn. 14:6](#)).
3. God chose the Gospel which must be preached to save ([Rm. 1:16-17](#); cf. [1 Cor. 1:18ff](#); [Tt. 1:1-3](#)).
  - a. We are called by the Gospel ([2 Th. 2:13-15](#)).
4. **Preach** and **doctrine** defined.
  - a. "...how shall they **preach**, except they be sent?..." ([Rm. 10:15](#)).
  - b. "...apostles' **doctrine**..." ([Ac. 2:42](#)).

## II. The Function of Preaching and Teaching

1. Preaching and teaching **shapes** our hearts.
  - a. The first five books of the New Testament are designed to teach us how to get **into** Christ (Matthew - Acts).
  - b. The 21 epistles which follow teach us how to **live** in Christ (Romans - Jude).
  - c. Revelation teaches us how to **die** in Christ.
  - d. The grace of God teaches ([Tt. 2:11-14](#)).
2. Preaching and teaching **transforms** our lives as God would have them to be ([Rm. 12:1-2](#)).
  - a. A Christian is no longer a servant of sin but of righteousness ([Rm. 6:16-18](#)).

3. Preaching and teaching **promotes church growth** both numerically and spiritually.
  - a. Numerically ([Ac. 2:41](#), [4:4](#), [5:14](#)).
  - b. Spiritually ([Ac. 9:31](#)).
  - c. We need active listeners to what is being taught!

## **Conclusion**

1. The whole counsel of God must be declared in preaching and teaching ([Ac. 20:25-27](#)).
  - a. This includes thanksgiving which is necessary in our lives as Christians.
2. The Gospel changes people's lives and can transform a selfish, arrogant, prideful person into a selfless, humble, and thankful person.
  - a. Therefore, we preach and teach the Gospel!
  - b. We thank God for our good teachers!