

A painting of a man and a child standing on a hill, looking at a large sun with birds flying around it. The scene is set against a warm, golden-orange sky with soft, textured clouds. The sun is a large, bright yellow circle in the center, partially obscured by the silhouettes of the man and child. Numerous birds are scattered across the sky, some in flight and others perched on the clouds. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

When...

Praying with gratitude

We have to tell Father
God that we are
grateful

Philippians 4.6 (NIV11)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Luke 17.12-18 (NIV11)

As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!”

When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed.

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him - and he was a Samaritan.

Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?”

1Thessalonians 5.16-18 (NIV11)

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Praising Father God is
going to cost us

James 5.17 (NIV11)

Elijah was a human being, like we are.
He prayed earnestly that it would not
rain, and it did not rain on the land for
three and a half years.

Hebrews 13.15-16 (NLT)

Therefore, let us offer through Jesus a continual sacrifice of praise to God, proclaiming our allegiance to his name. And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God.

Sacrifice = giving up something
valued for the sake of praising God

Time

Our human nature

2Samuel 24.23-24 (NIV11)

“Your Majesty, Araunah gives all this to the king.” Araunah also said to him, “May the Lord your God accept you.”

But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.”

Psalm 42.11 (NIV11)

Why, my soul, are you downcast?

Why so disturbed within me?

Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Saviour and my God.

Psalm 103.1 (NIV11)

Praise the Lord, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy
name.