PART 2 Retief Uys 25 Augustus 2024

"The Lord, through Nita and Samantha, brought confirmation of wells being re-opened and unblocked in people's lives and we ministered and prayed into that." - Reflection, Sunday 28 July

- What does it mean? [This is surely His will]
- Who is doing the work? [There is a work of grace]
- Do we have a part to play? [Absolutely]



Foundation:

Old Testament | Wells were important | Life-giving | Fruitful and civilisation around it

The Patriarchs dug it and named it I Fights were fought around it

Our well in the New Testament:

John 4:14 "But whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again—ever! In fact, the water I will give him will become a well of water springing up within him for eternal life."

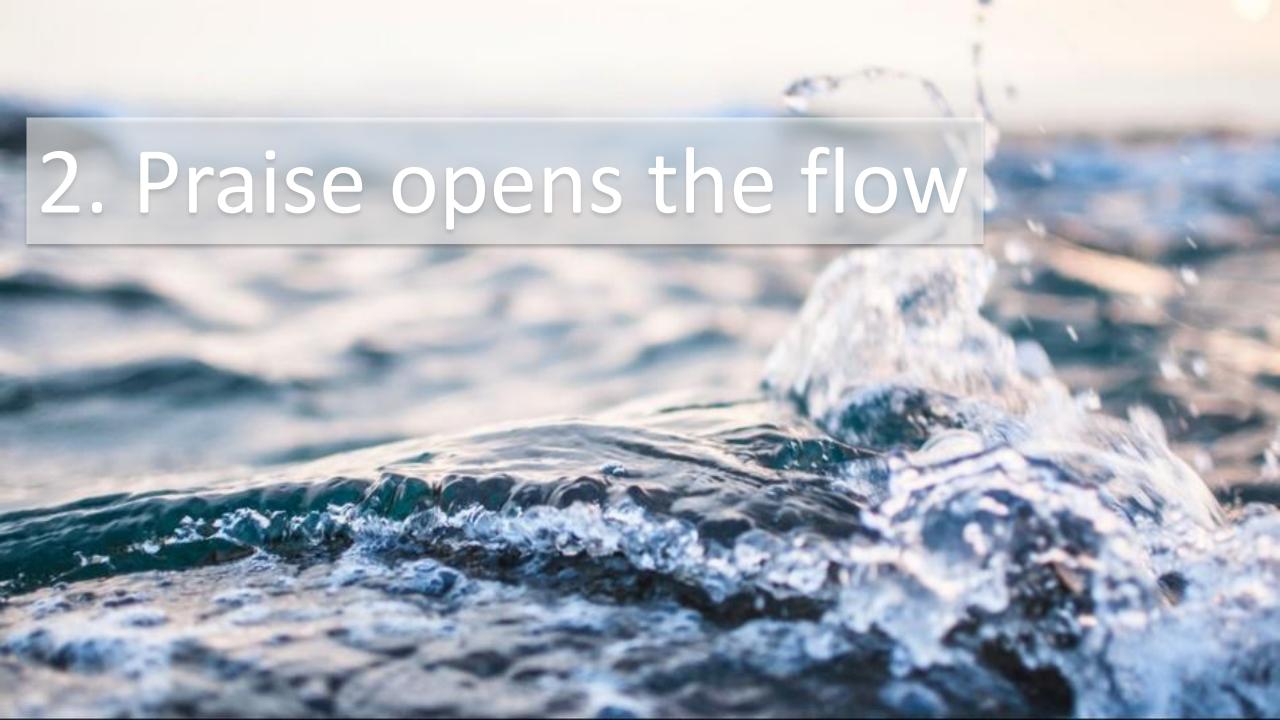
Two things last week I OUR RESPONSE:

1. Drink:

John 4:14 "But whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again—ever! In fact, the water I will give him will become a well of water springing up within him for eternal life."

2. Do not sin against the Holy Spirit:

- 1. Grieve,
- 2. Quench,
- 3. Lying,
- 4. Resist, and
- 5. Blaspheme



2.1 Praise into His presence:

Psalm 100:4-5

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.



Psalm 100:4-5

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

It is God's presence | Place of being

- Gate [door] and His courts [place, yard, fenced in] where He is...

- Enter in I Access to Him



Psalm 69:30

I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving.



2.2 The Command that leads to life:

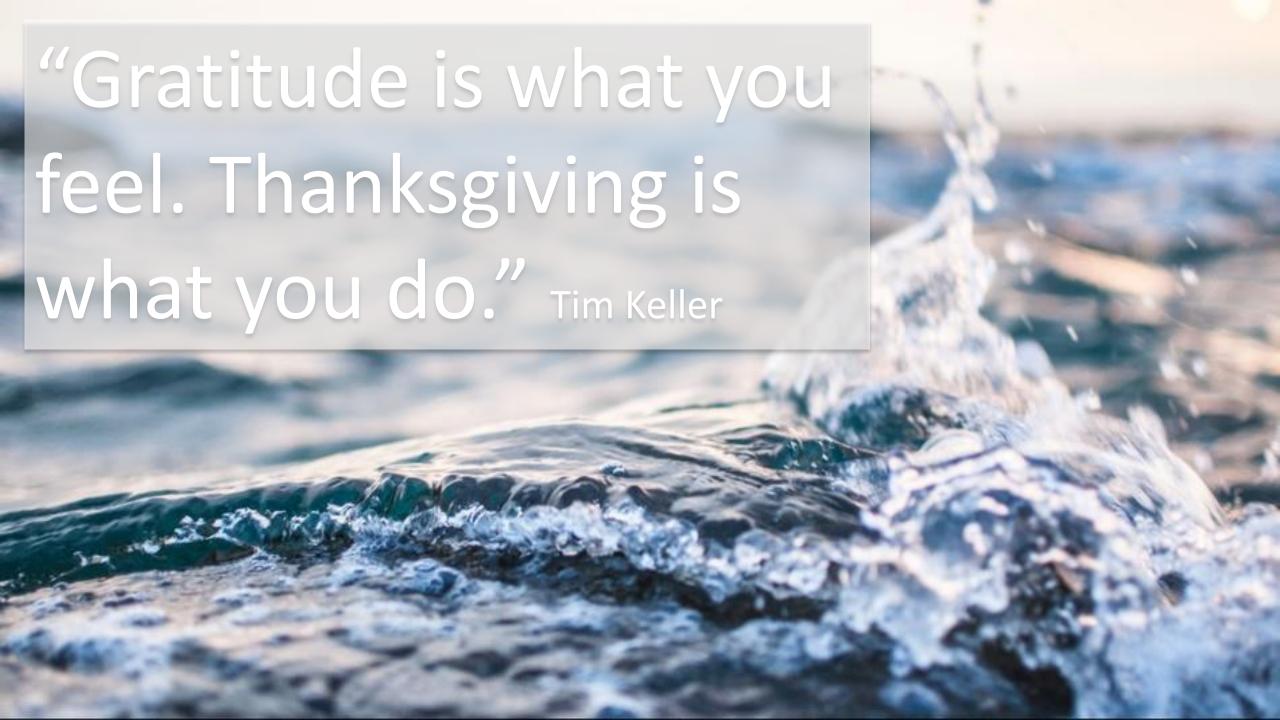
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

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

'God, what is Your will for my life?' Give thanks!

Hebrews 13:15-16

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise — the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.





3. Pride:

How can the gracious unblocking and the flow of His wells be prohibited in our lives and church?



According to Christian teachers, the essential vice, the utmost evil, is Pride. Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere fleabites in comparison: it was through Pride that the devil became the devil: Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind. -C.S. Lewis

3.1 What is Pride?

Def and origin:

The sin of pride is a heart attitude expressed in an unhealthy, exaggerated attention to self and an elevated view of one's abilities, accomplishments, position, or possessions. Pride has been called "the cancer of the soul", "the beginning of all sin," and "sin in its final form." Ten Hebrew words and two Greek words are generally used in the Bible to refer to it. Pride, in its sinful form, is the direct opposite of humility, a trait that is highly praised and rewarded by God. - Mary Fairchild

DEVIL: Isaiah 14:14 "I will ascend above the highest clouds; I will make myself like the Most High."

What is Pride?

The Bible presents pride as the opposite of humility. We see this clearly in the book of Proverbs:

"When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom" **Prov. 11:2**

"Before destruction a man's heart is haughty, but humility comes before honor" **Prov. 18:12**

"One's pride will bring him low, but he who is lowly in spirit will obtain honor" **Prov. 29:23**

The proud live as though they are kings of their own kingdom, whereas the humble recognize they are creatures of the King of kings. God is God and we are not. He made us and we belong to Him. We are dependent upon God for all things—life, breath, and everything else (Acts 17:25). All we have, all that we are, is because of His grace.



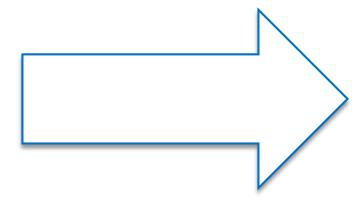
3.2 Deal with it:

James 4:6 "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble." Getting the dead flesh, boulders and sand out of our wells:

- 1. Recognize pride in your life
- 2. Confess and repent
- 3. Rely on God Pride often comes from relying on our abilities.

Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." *Trusting in God's strength rather than our own helps combat pride.*

- 4. Study and meditate on the Word
- 5. Serve and love others
- 6. Be accountable



Let's **praise and give thanks** and allow God to uproot any and **all pride** blocking the Spirit's work in our lives

