

AMEN

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
(Philippians 4:6, NIV)*

Did you ever stop to think about it? The words *thinking* and *thanking* are too similar and represent activities that are closely related. They both involve the use of language and imagination. When you reflect on the things God has done for you, the logical response is that you thank him for blessings received. The Bible encouraged the Jewish people to remember the great works of God such as their liberation from slavery, the power encounter with God on the mountain of Sinai and Gods protection and care during their life in the desert. God instituted special festivals (Deuteronomy 16) to remember those things and Christians have infused those festivals with new meaning remembering the resurrection and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. The same is true in your personal life. You can remember moments when God clearly spoke to you, saved you, directed you or blessed you. Thinking back over those events from time to time leads to thanksgiving and sharing these things with those around you.

Such thoughts also give you confidence that what God has done in the past, He will also do in future. He does not change and you can be secure in his love. Saying the last words of the Lord's prayer, we stand on the promises of God and can look to the future fully expecting God to come through and give meaning to our actions.

Prayer: Take time to think back to all that God has done for you in the last week, the last year, the last decade. And as you think, thank Him for being faithful.