



Thursday Thought

by Pastor Myron D. Atkinson

“A Lost Art?”

Thursday, November 24, 2016

Verse for the week: Philippians 2:3-4 (MSG) “Don’t push your way to the front; don’t sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don’t be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.”

We live in a society that takes just about everything for granted and expects others to serve us. We don’t even take our grocery buggies back to the store anymore. We put them in the buggy rack unless we are in a hurry. We then try to justify our action by talking about job security. Let’s be honest. We are “meistic!” (Yes, that’s a new word and it’s in my dictionary.) My definition of meistic is that the focus is always on ME. Some would say it’s being self-centered, narcissistic or egotistical. Someone once said, **“If you live your life as if everything is about you ... you will be left with just that. Just you.”**

Once upon a time we would say “thank you” if someone held the door, now we expect it. I enjoy holding the door for others and have at times, been known to conduct experiments. I wait to see how many people say “Thank you!” People enjoy having someone hold the door for them, and I’ve also observed that people of all ages say “Thank you,” but more often than not they don’t say anything. **Colossians 3:15 NLT**) says, **“...And always be thankful.”** Being thankful is a lost art. I know the old children’s show “Barney” used to try to teach children to say “please” and “thank you” but somewhere along the line it didn’t catch on (but it is a catchy toon - <https://youtu.be/D3CgwV3o7AM>). I think it’s time for us to stop being so meistic and start being thankful! We should start saying thank you to the custodians where we work, to the grocery clerk where we shop, to the nursing home workers, to the police men, to our parents, and the list goes on. Most importantly we should say “THANK YOU” to God. No matter what financial position we are in life, we have much to be thankful for! **Psalm 105:1 (NLT) “Give thanks to the Lord and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done.”**

Questions to ask yourself: Who can you say “THANK YOU!” to right now?

Quote: “Be thankful for what you have; you’ll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don’t have, you will never, ever have enough.” - Oprah Winfrey