

## DAY 18 — Thankful for Jesus (Christmas Eve Edition)

*“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!” — 2 Corinthians 9:15*

Over the past 18 days, we’ve talked about being thankful for breath, new beginnings, protection, family, friends, provision, strength, peace, laughter, hard lessons, hope, promises, forgiveness, purpose, memories, healing, and God’s faithfulness.

And today — on Christmas Eve — it all comes together.

Because every blessing we’ve named...

every reason for gratitude...

every promise we stand on...

**leads to one moment in history.**

A silent night.

A stable.

A baby in a manger.

Jesus.

Christmas isn’t about perfect decorations, wrapped presents, or full tables — though those are beautiful blessings.

Christmas is about a holy God stepping into a broken world and saying,

“I love you too much to stay away.”

He came as a baby so we could know Him personally.

He lived so we could see what love looks like.

He died so we could be forgiven.

And He rose again so we could have hope — not just for this life, but forever.

Every good thing we've talked about this season flows from that moment when heaven touched earth and Jesus was born.

Tonight, as families gather, as candles are lit, as quiet prayers are whispered and hearts reflect on the year behind us — may we remember this:

**Jesus is God's greatest gift.**

The reason we can face tomorrow.

The reason our past doesn't define us.

The reason we have peace in the storm.

The reason light always wins over darkness.

This Christmas Eve, we don't just celebrate a birthday.

We celebrate salvation.

We celebrate hope.

We celebrate love that came down.

And with full hearts, we simply say:

Thank You, Jesus.

Lord, on this holy Christmas Eve, we thank You for the gift of Jesus — the light of the world, our Savior, our Redeemer, our Prince of Peace.

Thank You for loving us enough to send Your Son into our broken world, into our broken lives, into our imperfect stories — to bring forgiveness, healing, and eternal hope.

As families gather tonight, may Your peace fill every home.

May Your love comfort every hurting heart.

May Your presence be felt by every listener.

We end this season of gratitude anchored in the greatest truth of all:

**Emmanuel — God with us.**

In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.