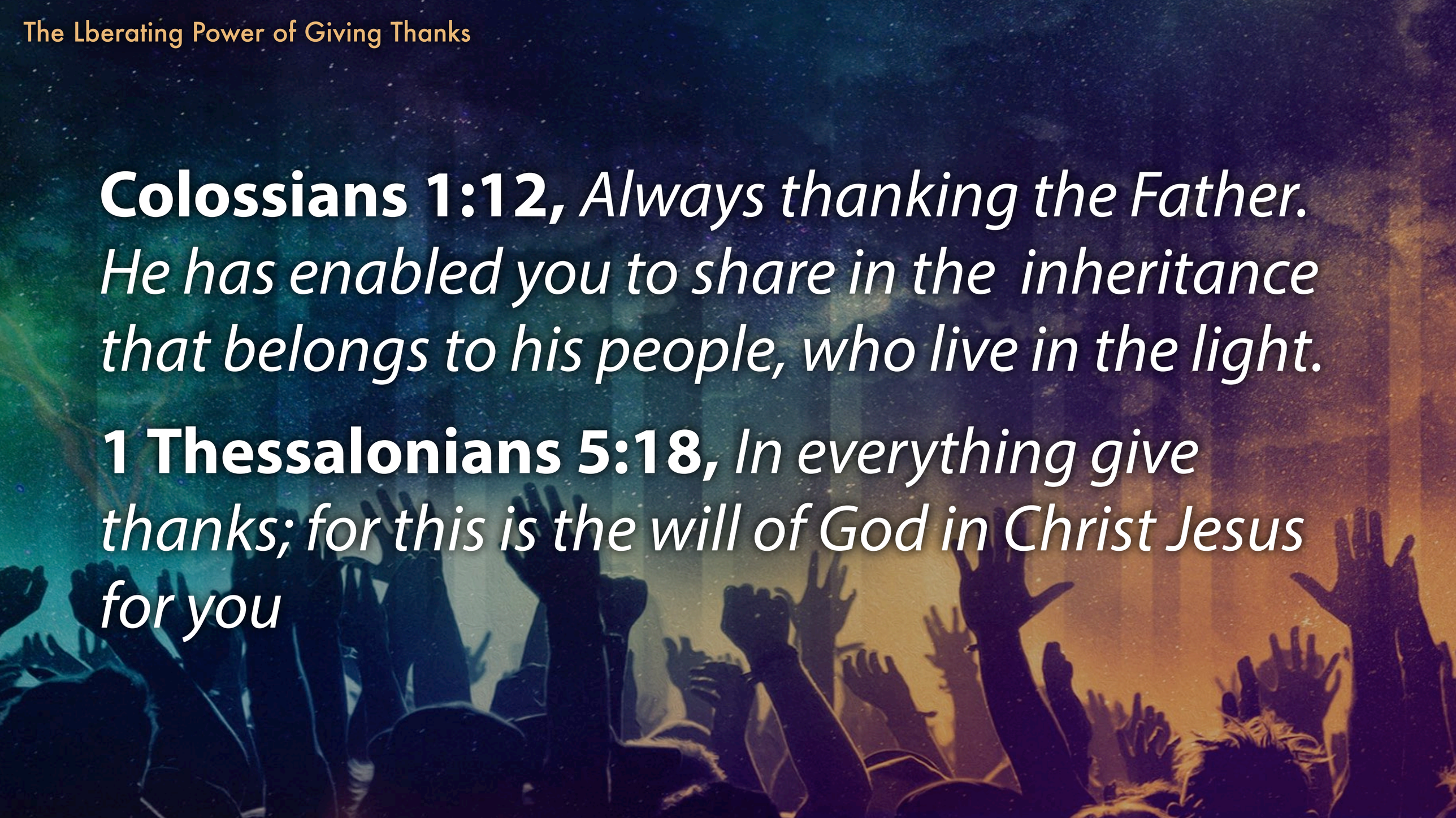
NEW COVENANT CHURCH

The Liberating Power of *Giving Thanks*



Pastor Bryan Hudson, D.Min.



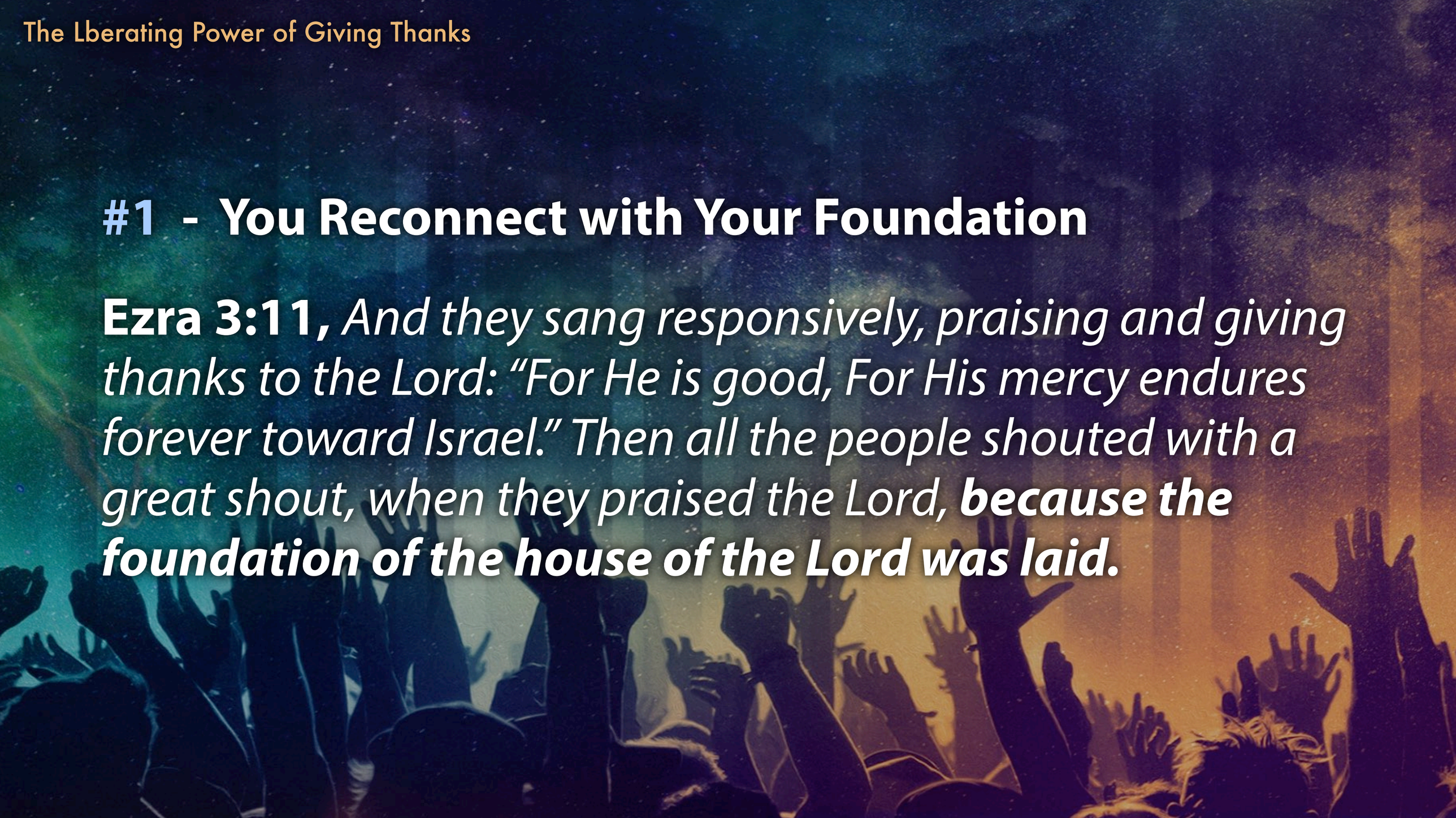
Colossians 1:12, *Always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light.*

1 Thessalonians 5:18, *In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you*



#1 Giving Thanks helps you reconnect with your foundation

A firm foundation makes other things possible. Every good thing happens on a firm foundation.



#1 - You Reconnect with Your Foundation

Ezra 3:11, *And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the Lord: "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever toward Israel." Then all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the Lord,* ***because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid.***

#1 - You Reconnect with Your Foundation

Matthew 7:24 *"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:*
25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

#1 - You Reconnect with Your Foundation

1 Thessalonians 5:17, *Pray without ceasing,*
18 ***in everything give thanks;*** *for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 19 Do not quench the Spirit.*



#1 - You Reconnect with Your Foundation

The words ***"in everything"*** indicate something foundational.

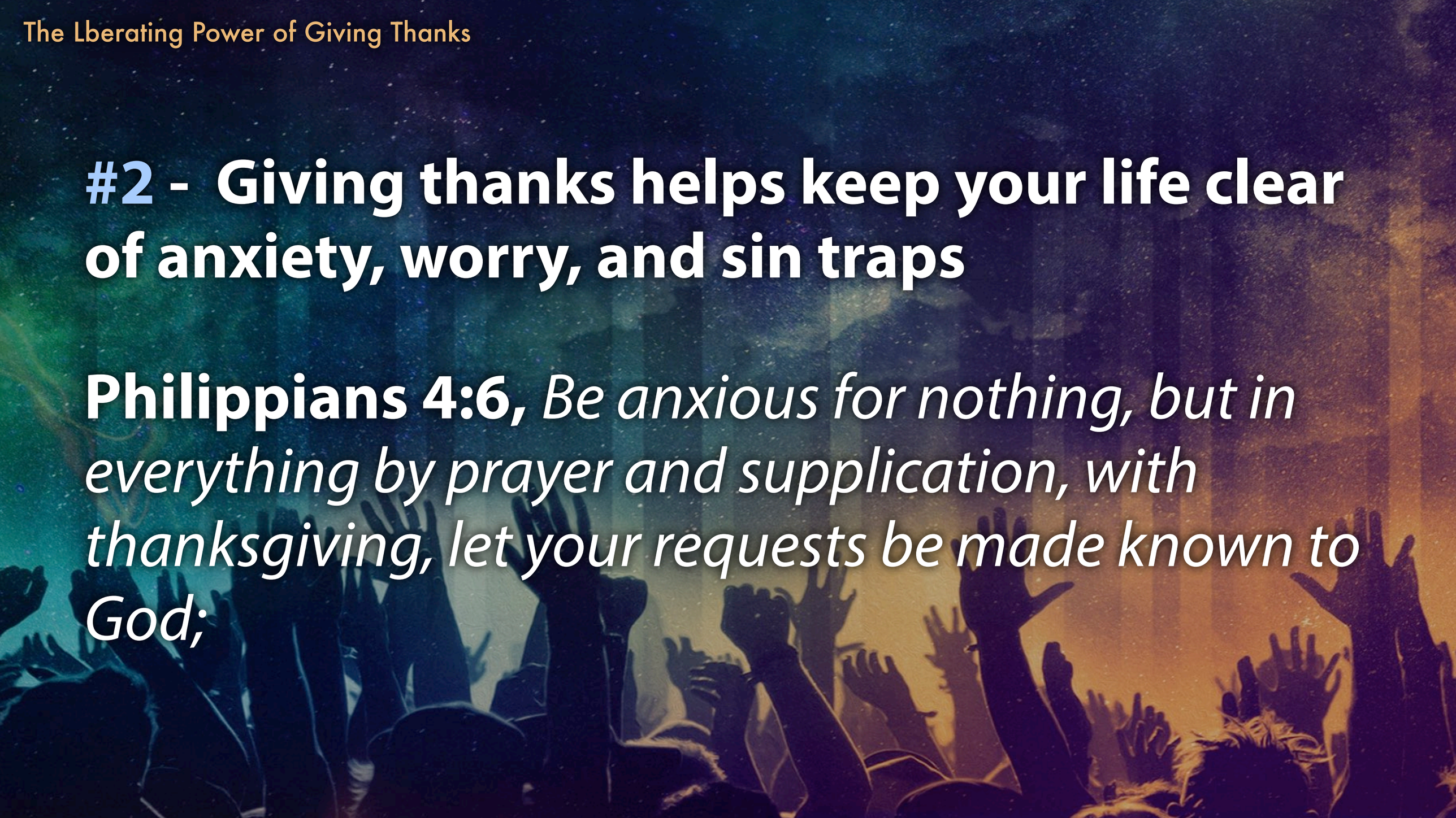
#1 - You Reconnect with Your Foundation

A lack of giving thanks creates problems and blind spots.

Romans 1:21, *Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God,* ***nor were thankful,*** *but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.*



#2 Giving Thanks helps keep your life clear of anxiety, worry, and sin traps



#2 - Giving thanks helps keep your life clear of anxiety, worry, and sin traps

Philippians 4:6, *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;*

#2 - Giving thanks helps keep your life clear of anxiety, worry, and sin traps

Ephesians 5:1, *Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. 3 But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; 4 neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting,* ***but rather giving of thanks.***

#2 - Giving thanks helps keep your life clear of anxiety, worry, and sin traps

Giving thanks is one of the characteristics of walking in the light.

Eph. 5:13, *Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.*



#3 Giving Thanks is the container that allows you to receive and hold blessings, benefits and responsibilities



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People who are thankful receive more from God.

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Ephesians 5:15, *See then that you walk* ***circumspectly****, not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.*

Thankful people are **circumspect:**

ἀκριβῶς, "Exactly, accurately, diligently; not deviating from duty"

#3 - Giving Thanks is the container that allows you to receive and hold blessings, benefits and responsibilities

Peace and thanksgiving follow a holy lifestyle.

Colossians 3:8 -13

14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.



#4 Giving Thanks puts you in a position to allow God to transform every weakness into a strength

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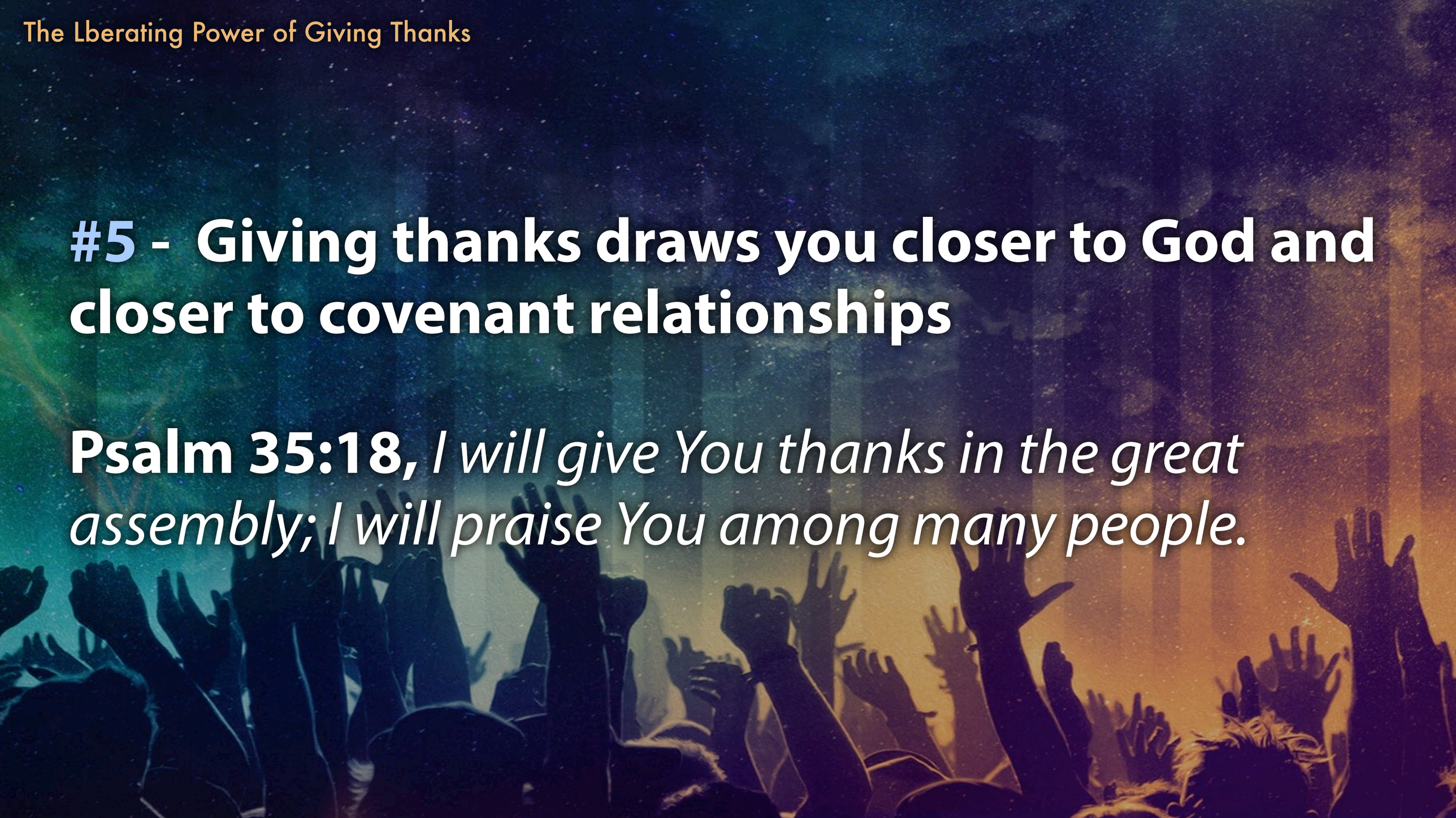
2 Corinthians.12:9 *And He said to me, "My **grace is sufficient** for you, for My **strength is made perfect in weakness**." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore **I take pleasure** in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. **For when I am weak, then I am strong**.*

#5 Giving thanks draws you closer to God and closer to covenant relationships





#5 - Giving thanks draws you closer to God and closer to covenant relationships

Psalm 35:18, *I will give You thanks in the great assembly; I will praise You among many people.*