



Sing to the LORD, you saints of his; praise his holy name.

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Our life is consecutive events of facing challenges, overcoming them, to face challenges again. Despite so, the Bible tells us (Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18)

It was about 3 months prior of returning to Korea after my assignment as a defense attaché to Australia in 2013.

I had a few things holding me back while I was preparing to go back to Korea.

First, I was pre-assigned to a remote frontline unit once I get back, and this brought me to the contemplation of where I and my wife would stay.

Second, my first son was in his service as a 1LT, which he was scheduled to be discharged a month before we return. Because our family was departed for 3 years, I wished him to stay together with us once he is discharged and get a job. But he was yet to get a job, let alone not being able to stay together due to my next assignment.

Third, my second son came to Australia together and graduated high school there. He was in first semester of first year in university. I was questioning whether he should continue his study here or come back to Korea with me. Because defense attaché could get some benefits of those are from diplomats (?); therefore, gets scholarship subsidized. But if I return to Korea, he no longer maintains diplomatic status – which made it realistically hard for a Colonel's salary to support expensive international student tuition fee, accommodations, and living cost.

Having not tremendous but life-affecting problems, I prayed to God every morning like I usually did, asking for His help.

And one day morning, some thoughts suddenly came to my mind: “God always walked along with me throughout my life and gave me countless blessings. Yet I worry, still asking for my wishes rather than thanking him”. Then I decided “God knows all my worries and wishes, no need to worry. Instead, give Him thanks and praise Him”

From the next day I tried to find something to thank and gave thanks to Him in every prayer. When I go for a walk or jog, I sang ‘O, Lord my Go! When I in awesome wonder.’

A month has passed while I was thanking and praised God. Then this miraculous thing happened where every concern of mine are solved in just one day simultaneously.

My next assignment when I go back changed to Defense Intelligence Command, which allowed me to stay in Seoul. And my older son got a job, so he could live together with us. Younger son also, the university notified us he still could get a scholarship even after we would go back to Korea, so he could finish his university education in Australia.

God said “Ask and you shall receive” through the bible. But he is happier when we thank him and praise him to give him all the glory. He changes our concerns and challenges to the best situation in the right time and place.

I still try to praise the Lord as a first thing of my everyday life, remembering His holiness and returning glory to Him with thankful mind.