

*(From my blog at ConcordPastor.blogspot.com where I post a prayer every day of the week.)*

Good morning, good God!

Today I want to offer you my gratitude, my praise and thanks, for just *some* of the innumerable gifts I so often take for granted: the blessings (large and small) that fill my day but so easily escape my notice or attention... I have so many things in my life that I consider basic (if I think on them at all) and these are things that others 'round the world would think as luxuries, far beyond their reach...

So I offer you my thanks, Lord, for the bed in which I woke, the clean sheets and the comfortable pillows on which I slept in the safety of my bedroom in a home with running water, hot and cold, in a house with heat and air conditioning and electricity, power and light 24/7/365...

And I offer you thanks, Lord, for my morning medications and for toothpaste and a toothbrush (manual and electric), for minty mouthwash and for soap, shaving creme and razors (one for my face and one for my head) and for deodorant, after shave and Q-Tips...

And I offer you thanks, Lord, for my hot shower with its pulsing needle spray waking me and cleansing me as each new day begins, opening my eyes, my pores, my whole body to you and to the gift of the day ahead of me...

And I offer you thanks, Lord, for my closets and my bureau drawers filled with clothes from which to choose (by color and design) just how each day I'll dress myself for work or play: closets to store my clothes for other seasons, warmer and colder times, when I'll be ready for the weather and dressed appropriately... And I offer you thanks, Lord, for my shoes: black and brown, casual and dress, and boots, sandals, sneakers, slippers, thongs - and socks for different kinds of shoes in white, brown, blue and black...

I offer you thanks, Lord, for my kitchen cabinets filled with good food (and plenty of it) and my oven and stove for preparing meals that keep me healthy and well fed... And I offer you thanks, Lord, for my refrigerator, filled with food to keep until it's time to cook or bake or just enjoy its frosty contents...

As I count them, Lord, these are about 50 reasons to be grateful for things you give me every day from the time I first awake 'til I sit down to have my breakfast... These are 50 things I scarcely think of, Lord, gifts I often take for granted, gifts that others would gladly treasure if the bounty that is mine were theirs too...

I offer you my thanks, Lord, and ask for one more daily gift: to be more and more aware of all I have, of you the source of all my gifts and for a heart more generously inclined to share with others who have so much less than I...

Let me never take these simple gifts for granted nor you, Lord, who bless me daily and in so many ways from the time when I wake up until I reach the breakfast table and then, Lord, who knows (but you) how many more the blessings, how many more the gifts you offer me all throughout my day...

Amen.