

## **Do You Know the Password?**

In our westernized society, there is a strong desire for exclusivity. The vast majority of us want to belong to clubs, groups and live in neighborhoods that are not readily available to everyone else. We feel special, knowing we are in a place that has limited access. Some places even require distinctive codes in order to gain admission. There is little you can do, even on the Internet that doesn't require a password.

Knowing the proper password can cause us to gain entry into anywhere. However, without the right combination or code we will be denied admittance to where we we're trying to go. Honor is the seed for access. But, thanksgiving is the password. Today, we will discuss the importance of thanksgiving to the people in our lives.

With this in mind, let us examine: **Do You Know the Password?**

### **Acts 16:25-26 Living Bible (TLB)**

**25 Around midnight, as Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to the Lord—and the other prisoners were listening—**

**26 suddenly there was a great earthquake; the prison was shaken to its foundations, all the doors flew open—and the chains of every prisoner fell off!**

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ is listening for the password.

It's not what we do when everything is perfect that causes us to be remember. We will be remembered for the problems we solve or the problems we create. Paul and Silas were locked up in jail with a lot of others. Something strange happened. Only Paul and Silas knew the password. But, everyone got free.

### **1 Peter 5:8-10 (NASB)**

**8 Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.**

**9 So resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brothers and sisters who are in the world.**

**10 After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.**

**2. The \_\_\_\_\_ is listening for the password.**

The Bible says the enemy is like a lion. What kind of animal does a lion go after? The sick, the wounded and the broken, are all easy prey. What tips Satan off that we might be at a point of vulnerability or that our situation has weakened us? When he hears our praise turn into complaining and our thanksgiving disappear, that's the access code for him to begin to devour things in our lives. When We find ourselves in situations that are not ideal, we can thank God that it is not permanent. **God has given us authority. He needs our permission and participation. SO DOES THE ENEMY!**

**Psalm 34:3-5 (NASB)**

**3 Exalt the Lord with me, And let's exalt His name together.**

**4 I sought the Lord and He answered me, And rescued me from all my fears.**

**5 They looked to Him and were radiant, And their faces will never be ashamed.**

**3. Your \_\_\_\_\_ is listening for the password.**

Joshua declared, "As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord." He could boldly make that claim, because he made it his mission to teach them to appreciate God and the ways of God. Thankful people are attractive. Ungrateful people are repulsive. Our families are waiting for an example of how to respond to what God has given us right now. When they hear the password of thank you, it will begin to unlock their hearts of thanksgiving. Then, God will begin to unlock the treasures of Heaven.

**2 Chronicles 16:8-9 (NLT)**

**8 Don't you remember what happened to the Ethiopians and Libyans and their vast army, with all of their chariots and charioteers? At that time you relied on the Lord, and he handed them over to you.**

**9 The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. What a fool you have been! From now on you will be at war."**

**4. \_\_\_\_\_ is listening for the password.**

Thanksgiving opens the door to God's power. That will then open the door to victory in every area of our lives. God is looking for people in whom He can show Himself strong. But, these have to be people whose hearts are totally sold out to Him. People who are willing to thank Him even when face to face with difficult circumstances are people who see the Mighty Hand of God move on their behalf. Remember: **IF HE DID IT BEFORE...**

**1 Samuel 30:6 (AMP)**

**6 Further, David was greatly distressed because the people spoke of stoning him, for all of them were embittered, each man for his sons and daughters. But David felt strengthened and encouraged in the Lord his God.**

**5. Your \_\_\_\_\_ is listening for the password.**

Perfect circumstances should not be the prerequisite for thanksgiving. God is good, because God is good. Contrary to popular belief, what you're hearing is affecting you. Who do you hear the most? You hear yourself. Faith comes by hearing. But, so does fear, doubt, and lack of appreciation. Sometimes, we have to employ the formula: **Think & Thank**. You've got a reason to thank God. The very breath you breathe is reason enough to be thankful.

Knowing the proper password can cause us to gain entry to everywhere God has for us. Thank you is the password the world, God and our family needs to hear. **Do you know the password.**