

GOD WANTS TO HEAR 'THANKS', DOESN'T NEED A 'PLEASE'

Dear Pastor Arnott,

On saying, "please" to God... If I recall correctly, a while back you said that someone rebuked you— basically for just saying "more" without a "please" or anything along with it— claiming that you were operating outside your rights, and telling God what to do.

SOCIETY SAYS BE POLITE IN ORDER TO PLEASE

What the rebuker seemed to be saying is that it is necessary to adopt (what our society accepts as) polite niceties, in order to come to God humbly enough as to not offend Him— appeasing Him.

(If that is the case, how odd it is then, that God answers that prayer, for more!)

GOD SAYS FAITH PLEASES HIM

We find that the scripture says, "without *faith* it is impossible to please God," not, "without [what society deems to be] politeness..." To please God does not take "asking nicely" (as our mothers instruct us in, when teaching us to say, "please"), but asking in faith.

It's OK to "ask nicely" if you prefer to, but "please" is not the "magic word" which gets our prayers answered.

THE "IMPOLITE" CAN STILL OPERATE IN THE KINGDOM/SPIRIT

Adhering to "acceptable social behavior" was not really a concern to Jesus, as he demonstrated time and again in his earthly ministry. God actually led Jesus, John the Baptist and others to offend social mores quite often.

Jesus also reveals to us that, "the Kingdom is forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it."

If one can be downright forceful (getting in your face and announcing, "this is mine, I'm taking it now" and proceeding to; bold and determined, and certainly unconcerned with appeasing you) and one can still enter the Kingdom and receive Kingdom blessings of righteousness, peace and joy (etc, etc), I don't think this indicates that saying/begging, "please" is in any way necessary. It seems to reveal quite the opposite...

GOD WANTS OUR THANKS

What we do is say, "thank you."

Offering thanksgiving is clearly scriptural. "Thank you," are words of faith, because it comes from knowing you've received. "Please," can sometimes be from begging, which comes from lack of faith.

So whether the "please" is from begging, or from appeasing, or from social nicety, it is not what will please God. So, let's not worry about that, but just *thank* Him in faith!!

Love,
Leslie L. McGee
Raleigh, NC, USA